Thursday May 16 1996

### INTERNATIONAL MeGuardiai

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# Joanna Coles dines with Mr Simpson



Ian Katz on New York's shattered reputation

### Where's all the crime gone?



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### Runcie admits breaking ban on homosexual priests Late for



Madeleine Bunting Religious Affairs Editor

HE former Arch-bishop of Canterbury has admitted he knowingly ordained homosexuals in direct contradiction to the Church's official ban, a policy which he described as

Asked in a radio interradio interview whether he had knowingly ordained practising homosexnals, Lord Runcie simply replied "Yes," an admission which will fuel the highly sensitive debate within the Church of West within the Church of EngLord Runcie, who led the

Church for 11 years from 1980, added in his defence: "I have not knowingly ordained anyone who told me that they were a practising homosexual and living in partnership with somebody as if it was a marriage."
But he went on to admit:

"There have been in my ministry occasions when I have acted in a "don'twant-to-know way and why-should-I-inquire way." I never liked the prospect of inquiring into what happened in a man's bedroom unless he's prepared to tell

have provoked a storm of criticism and could open a crift likely to prove far more divisive than the ordina-tion of women priests, which has led to 400 clerics leaving the Church. The Rev David Holloway,

of the evangelical group, Reform, said that Lord Runcie had acted contrary to the doctrine and canons of the Church of England and urged his successor, Archbishop George Carey, to discipline any bishop with such attitudes. "Lord Runcie's remarks

highlight the sickness in the Church where the

Lord Runcie's remarks contrary to what is the tory compromise" the The Purple, the Blue and nave provoked a storm of clear mind of the majority Church's current position the Red to be broadcast this ritleism and could open a of members. He has made a as laid down in the House evening. mockery of the entire disciplinery structures of the Church." Richard Kirker, secre-

tary of the Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement, said the double standards of the episcopate had done untold damage to the Church.

"The hypocrisy makes me furious because of the pain and damage to individuals and to the good name of the Church. The don't-ask, don't-tell policy is ripe for exposure and ridicule."

of Bishops' report in 1991. Issues in Human Sexuality.
which accepted gay sex for
the laity but upheld the ban
on gay sex for clergy.
"I think it has become a

serious problem which hasn't been entirely solved and at the moment it's at an unsatisfactory compromise stage where officially the line is that nobody can be ordained who engages in genital sexual activity and yet you can be a member of the Church if you do so. Lord Runcie, in a serious Now stated thus crudely . . . challenge to Dr Carey, de it is ludicrous," says Lord

Dr Carey refused to com-ment last night, but Church House issued a statement, reiterating Church policy that homosexual practice is not on a par with marriage, and that the Church is "right to require high stan-dards of holiness and discipline from those seeking ordination."

Also on the programme, the Rt Rev Jim Thompson, Bishop of Bath and Wells, and the Rt Rev Hugh Monteflore, the former hishop of Birmingham, admit they have ordained homosexual

### school mother fined

Gary Younge

MOTHER who brough her two children to school late every day for four months has been fined £200 after ignoring warnings from teachers and the local council to be punctual, it emerged yesterday. In what is believed to be the

first case of its kind, magistrates in Camberwell, south London, convicted the mother under the 1993 Education Act for "failing to ensure her children's full-time education". The case was beard in her absence last month after she failed to turn up at two court hearings. The children, aged five and

10. sometimes arrived at school at 10,30am. The woman, who cannot be named for legal reasons, was given two formal written warnings and several verbal ones but failed to respond, says the council, which is launching a cam-paign to encourage regular school attendance.

John Guest, the head of Southwark council's educa-tion and welfare attendance service, said: "The severity of the fine suggests that the magistrates found the matter at least as serious as we did. A parent who does not bring a child to school on time is not just disadvantaging the child but is also causing disruption that harms other pupils

"Since the hearing there has been a dramatic improvement in the children's attendance record," said Mr Guest.

Nigel de Gruchy, genera secretary of the National Association of Schoolteachers Union of Women Teachers, praised the action. "It is a helpful precedent in forcing parents to take greater responsibility for their chil-dren's education," he said. A spokesman for the De

partment for Education and Employment said yesterday: "While we cannot expand on the specifics of this particular case, this action is within the guidelines set out in 1994."

# Dole

Jonathan Freedland in Washington

DOLE stunned political rivals and colleagues alike in the United States last night, when he moved to give his ailing presidential campaign a desperatelyneeded fresh start by stepping down as the Republican leader in the Senate and resigning his own seat.

With only a few hours' warning Mr Dole ended a 36year career in Congress late yesterday, so clearing the way for a full-throttle challenge to the president, Bill Clinton. Mr Dole had faced intense

pressure from Republican ders to halt a haemorrhage in public support, which has seen his poll standing drop by two points each week for six weeks. A recent survey found Mr Dole trailing Mr Clinton

by 31 points.

White House officials conceded yesterday that they were baffled by the move, which they described as "an act of desperation".
Until yesterday morning,
most Republicans believed

that Mr Doie would merely delegate his duties as major-ity leader in order to spend more time outside Washington campaigning. None anticipated his resignation from the Senate, an institution of which Mr Dols is famously fond and his political home since 1968.

"He's giving up the job he loves," said Ed Miller, a Republican pollster, yesterday. "That's going to send the signal that he's serious about this, and that will give the campaign the jolt it needs." Newt Gingrich, the speaker of the House of Representa-tives, said it was "inevitable that [Mr Dole] would have to

focus dramatically on the Analysts agreed that Mr Dole was now engaged in an all-or-nothing struggle for the presidency, the prize he has sought twice before, in 1980

and 1988. At the age of 72, he effectively recognised yester-day that if he loses in November, his career is over. Mr Dole has faced increas-

ingly anxious calls for drastic action from Republican governors and congressmen who fear his poor standing is jeopardising their own chances for re-election in November. Latest polls show Democrats on course to regain control of the House of Representatives, which they lost in 1994.

Some Republicans pushed for an early announcement of Mr Dole's choice for vicepresident, believing that would inject fresh interest into the Dole campaign. But Mr Dole's camp signalled yes-terday that his running mate will not be named until just before the party convention in San Diego in August. "The Battle of Pennsylva-

nia Avenue is over and Bob Dole lost," said William Dole lost," said William Schneider, a political analyst, referring to the unprecedented contest for the White House between a sitting president and a majority leader.

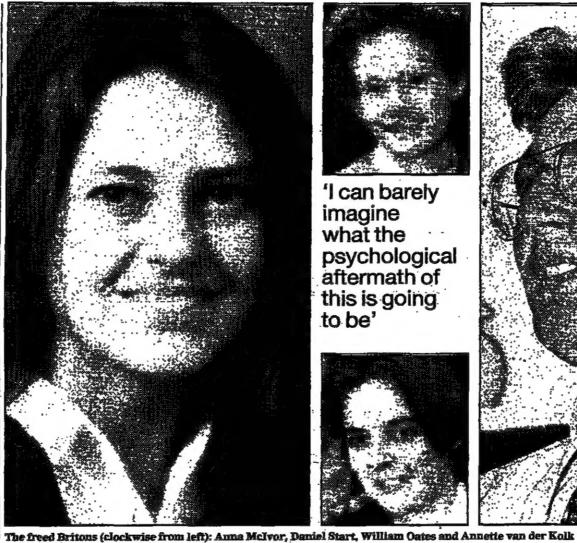
Once he had bagged his party's nomination in mid-March, Mr Dole had aimed to use the floor of the Senate as the base for his presidential campaign. Having nearly

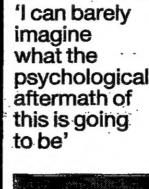
campaign. Having nearly reached his legal spending limit, he hoped to rely on the free exposure afforded by cov-

erage of the chamber. He planned to bombard Mr Clinton with new legislation which would either be cred-ited as Republican achieve-ments or force the president

to use costly vetoes.

But the plan backfired, miring Mr Dole in skirmishes with Democrats while Mr Clinton travelled the country addressing big themes. Republican aides had criti-cised their candidate for lookcised their candidate for note-ing too much the Washington insider, and becoming a sym-bol of congressional gridlock. One Dole adviser said that yesterday's move was a "striking admission of Dole's failure to control the Senate









### Britons freed from jungle base

#### Elite forces raid camp of Papua separatists

John Aglionby in Jakarta and Alex Bellos

INE hostages, includ-ing four Britons, were freed yesterday in an airborne rescue operation by Indonesian special forces after being held for four months in the remote jungle province of Irian Jaya. Last night, the liberated hostages were on a cloud-covered mountain with their

rescuers waiting to be taken to Jakarta. Twenty five Indonesian special forces, or Kopassus, troops rescued the hostages after tracking them and their captors of the Free Papua Movement (OPM) for five days through some of the densest jungle on earth. Their location had been pinpointed by an unpiloted drone, or

reconnaissance aircraft. The troops descended from helicopters on the jungle clearing where the group was being held. OPM guerrilias fired as they came down.

All those rescued are unhurt and in reasonable health. The freed group comprises four Britons, two Dutch and three Indone The guerrillas are still hold-ing two Indonesians.



University graduates, are Dan-iel Start and William Oates, iel Start and William Ostes, both aged 22, and Annette van der Kolk and Anna McNor, both 21. They were in the last few days of an expedition to the Lorentz nature reserve when they were kidnapped on January 8. One of the freed Dutch hostages, Martha Klein, is pregnant.

They will be lifted off the mountain this morning and

mountain this morning and taken to Jakarta, before trav-

elling on to England. The rescue was staged at with their families." separatists in Kashmi 4pm (3am BST) on a mountain ridge three miles from the vilbeen no sign that they were writes from New Delhi.



which is why Kopassus waited five days before launching their strike."

He said neither Kopassus nor the OPM suffered casualties. Graham Burton, Britain's

ambassador to Indonesia, said: "We are delighted the Britons western hostages, including thing now is to reunite them with their families."

Mr Burton said: "There has dead, Suzanne Goldenberg

seized on January 8, includ-ing Irlanese and Indonesians accompanying the Britons. The Irianese were freed within a few days and others at irregular intervals.

anything other than well treated and there is no

evidence that they were ever threatened by the OPM."

Altogether, 26 people were

Kelly Kwalik, the OPM leader, initially said he had only seized the hostages to draw attention to the campaign for Irian independence. Formerly a Dutch colony. Irian Jaya was ceded to Indo-nesia in 1963. The families of the hostages

were yesterday delighted at the news. Anna McIvor's mother Susan, from Bourne-mouth, said: "I am overjoyed. The Britons are fine but we need to know more. As far as we know they saw the Red Cross doctor last week and he said they were in very good shape so, fingers crossed,

snape so, fingers crossed, they will get back and they will be okay."

Annette van der Kolk's mother, Jill, from Fleet in Hampshire, said: "I can barely imagine what the psychological aftermath of this is going to be."

Indian officials in Srinaga

and diplomats in New Delhi said they had no evidence to confirm a report that four

Comment and Letters 8 Crossword 15: Weather 16



### Why Does Your

# Memory

A WORLD-FAMOUS memory expert, who has trained industrialists, trades unionists, businessmen, professional men, salesmen, housewives and students to improve their memories, once said:

"Many people are embar-rassed by a poor memory, and find difficulty in concentrat-ing, whilst others realise that they lose business, academic and social opportunities not only because they cannot remember accurately everything they see, hear or read, but also because they cannot think or express their thoughts clearly, logically and concisely. Some seek advice, but many do not, mainly because they believe their memories cannot be improved.

Simple Technique

And yet, he went on to explain, he has devised a simple technique which can improve even the poorest The Guardian with the easymemory. What's more, it can even work like magic to give you added poise, self-confidence and greater personal effectiveness. Everyone owes it to himself to find out more

#### about this method. Rapid Results

According to this remarkable man, anyone — regard-less of his present skill day, improve his memory and concentration to a remark- Manchester M60 SDL



Forget names, faces? able degree. For example, you

need never forget another appointment - ever! You could learn names, faces, facts, figures and foreign lan-guages faster than you ever thought possible. You may be able to imprint whole books on your memory after a sin-gle reading. You could be more successful in your stud-ies and examinations. At parties and dinners you may never again be at a loss for appropriate words or entertaining stories. In fact, you could even be more poised and self-confident in everything you say and do.

#### Free To acquaint all readers of

to-follow rules for developing skill in remembering, we, the publishers, have printed full details of this interesting self-training method in a fascinaring book, "Adventures in Memory", sent free on request. No obligation. No salesman will call. Just fill in and return the coupon on Page 9 (you don't even need to stamp your envelope), or write to:- Memory and Concentration Studies (Dept. MGM46), FREEPOST 198,

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minister-designate Atal Valpayee the country's first 1 Hindu nationalist government

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囊 Sport

#### Sketch

### Getting into the slaughter spirit



ACQUES Chirac spoke to both Houses of Parlia-ment yesterday, in the Royal Gallery of the House of Lords

We were in our places half an hour beforehand, giving us time to study the vast histori-cal murals depicting French-

men being killed. One shows the Meeting of Wellington and Blucher at Waterloo. The two men are on horseback. Around them, stretching off in every direc-

tion, are piles of dead bodies. The mural is nearly 46 feet long. According to the helpful pamphlet on our seats, it was painted by Daniel Maclise, and originally took the form of a cartoon. If so, it must have been one of those 19th century Punch cartoons — a superbly detailed drawing with a caption in the form of dialogue.

It may well have been the (perhaps apocryphal) ex-change between Wellington and another man, quoted by Elizabeth Longford in her biography of the general. Blucher: Mr Jones, I

Wellington: If you believe that, you'll believe anything. These days such old car-toons are sometimes reproduced in newspapers and magazines, for readers to supply modern captions. For instance, one winner might be: "D'ye think *this* planned slaughter will be enough to

satisfy the French?" I asked a helpful French reporter sitting next to me if there were similar French victories over the British. These could decorate the room when John Major speaks to the Chambre des Deputés, but he couldn't think of any, except possibly Joan of Arc at Orleans.

Various dignitaries walked down the aisle in wigs, trumpets sounded, and a team of Yeomen of the Guard appeared on the platform. This ancient body of men dates

back to Henry VII, when make the king's bed each morning, a job which must have been almost as fascinating then as it would be today. Another of their duties was tasting the king's meat in case it was poisoned, which is how they came by their nickname,

This was becoming obsessive. First Chirac is forced to eat beef. Then he is surrounded by people who scoff beef for a living. What next? Would a dead cow labelled. 'Eat Me" descend from the

The president spoke in French. No more than nine MPs in 10 kept their head-phones on for the simultaeous translation. Not that this mattered. The speech sounded much the same in

either language. We had an "*attachement fo*rouche" (a fierce friendship). Both nations had *"un esprit de tolérance"*. The French ren-

Nonsense, of course: all softening up for the cool instruc-tion to join the single European currency. And meaningless, too. We British see France as two places: the

bossy, self-important nation across the sea which remains eternally ungrateful for the way our forefathers liberated them twice, and the delightful pastoral country where, thanks to the CAP, we can holiday in idyllic farmland, eating delicious food which will probably not give us an

The friendship Chirac spoke about bears no relationship to anything we experi-ence. It is the friendship of the diplomatic reception, formed over the champagne and the Ferrero-Rocher chocolates ("Oh, ambassador, how you

Betty Boothroyd made a graceful speech in which she pointed out that, for most Brit sh people, the Greatest Livin Frenchman was actually Eric Cantona. My French colleague became quite excited : "This is an important story for L'E-

quipe [the sports paper]." From my knowledge of France, it is not really done to praise a mere footballer in ront of his head of state. Luckily M. Chirac decided not to administer a bicycle kick to



President Chirac kisses the hand of the Speaker, Betty Boothroyd, after addressing both houses of Parliament yesterday

### Cabinet faces beef anger

### Chirac supports Major stance

EMU convergence criteria

Michael White and Julie Wolf

Three of the

four key conver criteria. Europe

HE Cabinet will today be forced to fend off pressure from Tory Eurogainst Britain's EU partners after veterinary experts in Brussels postponed the exected decision to endorse a partial lifting of their world-Ministers and officials on both sides of the Channel in-

sisted that the ban on beef by products could still be ended next week. But the tactical manoeuvre by EU vets took the shine off French President Jacques Chirac's ringing endorsement of John Major's step by step approach to end-ing the beef crisis.

Invoking European solidar-ity, President Chirac used his pomp-laden state visit to admit that the BSE crisis which has hit the French and German beef markets far

Deficit

6.9

Austria still refusing to back the European Commission's modest concession, and other countries keen for more specific safety guarantees from Whitehall, active French support, gratefully acknowledged by British officials, was not enough to risk a divisive vote — even though the German-led trio lacked enough votes to block a qualified majority (QMV) victory. Mr Chirac still managed to

inflame Labour and Tory sceptics when he used his speech to both Houses of Parliament to urge Britain to join the emerging single currency
— "an ambitious project full
of promise", he said. "For its

68.7

57.8

63.2

79.6

1114

At Mr Chirac's side, the Prime Minister side-stepped calls for Britain to adopt an "empty chair" policy to block progress on other EU policies — certain to be stepped up amid backbench and tabloid fury. It could produce a significant Tory revolt at tonight's end of the annual Commons iebate on EU farms policy.

But this morning's Cabinet will see key ministers, includ-ing Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, and Deputy Prime Minister Michael Heseltine, urge caution to avoid sabre-rattling that might jeopardise a deal. "Today's meeting is not the

of disease, serious illness, and take part in this great the media," the Agriculture it is difficult to overcome undertaking."

It brought instant charges MPs before the vets decision.

With Germany, Greece and of bullying and elitism. ing on Tuesday have the chance to endorse the unban-

ning, he stressed.
"A failure to make progress would seriously complicate the relations that exist between the UK and other member states," said Mr Hogg. British and EU officials in Brussels took an upbeat view of the vets agreement to keep

the issue in play. They gave Britain until Monday to pro-vide further guarantees on the eradication of BSE.
"We were a fraction away from getting an agreement the Belgian delegate to the vets meeting said. Keith Meldrum, Britain's

make or break event de- chief veterinary officer, scribed in some sections of remained cheerful. "Tm op-

on Monday." he said.
Officials interviewed by
Channel 4 News last night warned it would be "callous" to move prematurely, given the level of public anxiety. Mr Rifkind later said "use-

ful progress" had been made, and warned against abandon-ing the diplomatic track. "Let's not get melodramatic, but realise these are sensitive issues," he said. For his part Mr. Chirac, who was the Queen's guest at a Hampton Court banquet last night, said: "I think the British Government has done everything to convince the Commission and the EU of the need to have a plan which in the long term and without risk restores faith in beef."

#### First night

### Dynamic display in metal tradition

Adam Sweeting

Wembley Arena BILLY Corgan couldn't resist a touch of irony after the Smashing Pumpkins were dragged out for the third batch of encores "You're not supposed to like us in England," he told the

heaving Wembley crowd. Vast as the Pumpkins are in their native USA, pouting, thin-skinned Billy can't stop paying far too much attention to the jibes and sideswipes of the British press. He seemed almost overwhelmed by the surging displays of enthusiasm, with wild head-banging mēlēes causing a steady stream of prostrate ravers to be carted over the barriers by

a huge security presence. Somebody died of a heart attack at a Pumpkins show in Dublin at the weekend, so the band must have viewed the scene with mixed emotions.

Although sceptics might see the Pumpkins as merely Billy Corgan's backing band, this tion of group dynamics and. interplay. The unconverted are no doubt confused by the group's insistence on ranging the last 30 years of rock

They provided a potted history of Pumpkinism on last year's double-disc set, Mellon Collie and the Infinite Sadness, which had everything from gossamer-fine ballads and pseudo-renaissance instrumentals to the crunching hard rock which first got then confused with Grunge. Though Corgan came out

the Britain's largest forces,

broke down in tears yester-day as she told Leeds indus-

trial tribunal of the hidden

"culture of sexual harass-

ment" maintained by male

pervades the police force

ALONG-serving police-Yorkshire officers, and had counselled some 30 women help other women in one of colleagues on sexual harass-

wearing the black ZERO shirt and silver trousers pictured in the Mellon Collie CD booklet. their stage show doesn't bear much relation to their re-cords. Where their studio sound is a tour de force of elaborate sonic layering, on stage

they're faster, cruder and paint-peelingly raw. In thundering riff-driven stuff like Where Boys Fear To Tread or Zero, the Pumpkins metal tradition, far closer to the metronomic juggernautism of Metallica than to Pearl Jam or Nirvana.

Bodies, with its "love is sui ide" refrain, is boiled down until it sounds like vast machinery trying to shudder itself to bits. Corgan's voice, which can sound tolerably tuneful on disc, becomes a sneery yowl, almost self-con-sciously unpretty. With the Pumpkins, things

ren't black and white so much as cunningly shaded into one another. While Bulls With Butterfly Wings contains one of Corgan's most rec-ognisable look-at-me-every-body howls — "Despite all my rage, I am still just a rat in a cage" — it's also broken into hard, soft and interlinking sections. The epic curve of Today survives even Corgan's shrill whining, while 1979 is

suphorically scaled up. They climaxed with a 20minute Silverfuck jam, stuffed with loops and riffs as if the Velvet Underground had mated with The Doors

Corgan unwound his guitar strings and lobbed them into the crowd, then they concocted a mellow four-part harmony for Farewell And Goodnight. You had the sense that anything was possible.

Sergeant Jane McGill, 43

said she had been indecently

assaulted four times by West Yorkshire officers, and had

ment in the past six years.

Mrs McGill, a West Yorksbire training officer and

### Gay row bars Olympic torch

an Katz in New York

Some people are won-dering if the Olympic torch will ever make it to Atlanta. Since beginning its 15,000 mile journey across the United States last month, it has already been involved in an accident and almost been extin-

guished by high winds.

Now it faces a detour after local leaders in South Carolina challenged Olympic organisers to divert the symbolic relay by passing a distinctly un-Olympian resolution condemning Hidden 'culture of sex bias'

nomosexuality.
In its resolution, Spartanburg county council de-clared that "lifestyles advo-cated by the gay community should not be endorsed by government policy makers, because they are incompatible with the standard to which this

community subscribes". The move is a fresh blow to Games organisers who only last month announced women's representative to the that the torch, a symbol of Police Federation said she the Olympic ideals of peace had been refused promotion and non-partisanship, because she was a woman.



torch on the way to Games

suburb which had passed a similar anti-gay measure. The organising committee had already been forced to move preliminary rounds of the volleyball competition from Cobb County following protests by gay rights groups over the ordinance, which also barred groups promoting homosexual lifestyles from receiving public funds.

a booming city 200 miles north-east of Atlanta, in-sisted they had passed a similar resolution to pro-test against the Olympic committee's action against committee's action against Cobb County.

"This is not gay-bash-ing," said Frank Dillard, the councillor who pro-posed the measure. "It's a reaction. We have done this ecause the Olympic committee inappropriately."
The Atlanta committee

for the Olympic Games yes-terday warned that if the Spartanburg resolution was similar to the one passed by Cobb County, the route would probably be changed to bypass the area.
Following the decision to
punish Cobb County, several other Georgia counties
revoked similar anti-gay

would be cut out of the Olympic celebrations. However, the white staunchly conservative res idents of the Atlanta suburb, which is home to House Speaker Newt Gingrich, refused to back down, insisting they were victims

ordinances fearing they too

### Kohl warns of tough decisions over euro

John Palmer in Brussels

N unusually sombre Chancellor Helmut Kohl yesterday warned in Brussels that governments including that of Germany faced difficult economic decisions if the timetable for a to be achieved.

The European Commission also conceded that success or failure in meeting the 1999 deadline now depends heavily on a widely forecast but still intangible recovery in growth throughout Europe.

In a report on the economic outlook for 1997 — the performance during which will form the basis for deciding single-currency membership — the Commission forecast that growth would rise to 2.4 per cent from 1.5 per cent this year.

But it warned that if recovery proved slow, and popular resistance prevented reductions in government budget deficits, this "might add to doubts among some observers as to whether a suf-ficient number of member states would be ready to participate in EMU at the starting date of January 1, 1999." Against that, it expressed

economic activity could sur-prise in a positive manner

once confidence is restored". On this basis, the Commis-sion last night declared that about half the EU's 15 member countries are on track to move to a single European currency by 1999.
Its latest forecasts implied hat, unlike Britain, both

France and Germany will meet the key conditions for monetary union next year. But this unexpectedly optimistic conclusion is only reached on the assumption that all the latest economic austerity proposals unveiled in Bonn and Paris are suc-cessfully implemented.

It is the 1997 figures for in-flation, budget deficits, gov-ernment debt and other tar-gets which will form the basis of a decision by EU heads of government early in 1998 about which countries can join the currency bloc.

The new forecasts were released after a meeting in Brussels between the German chancellor and all 20 Commission members largely devoted to the prospects for the single currency and for closer political union in the Maastricht treaty review conference.

Against that it expressed the hope that with interest rates and inflation at a long-term low "the revival in trends France, Germany," The European commis-

Ireland, Luxembourg, Fin-land, the Netherlands and Denmark would meet the key Meastricht conditions for monetary union, while Sweden and Austria were

also close to qualifying.
On present policies, Britain is assumed to have a budget deficit of 3.7 per cent in 1997 ed only by Italy and Greece. While paying tribute to the British government's efforts to bring down its defi-cit, the Commission makes it clear it sees little room for tax cuts at present.

It says in order for the British government "... to respect the convergence programme targets, further action is needed both to compensate for the fiscal slippage in 1995 and an expected less rapid budget-ary improvement in the short-term which is partly due to

lower growth . . Dealers on the interna-tional financial markets will now have to balance doubts they have about the credibil-ity of the Commission's forecasts with the clear expression of political will by Mr Kohl to overcome obstacles. Although Britain is pre-

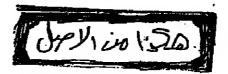
dicted to be significantly above the prescribed budget deficit limits next year, the government debt ratio at 562 per cent will be comfortably under the 60 per cent ceil-

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### Howard ignored forensic warnings

Thursday May 16 186

ard, the Home Secretary, ignored clear warnings from Justice, that action tree Justice, that action was ur-gently needed to improve the forensic service 18 months be-fore the discisoure this week that contaminated equipment may put the convictions of at

was "urgent and overdue". He told the Academy of Forensic Scientists that the Home Secretary's "silence was deafening" on the issue.

Mr Howard's lack of action led to accusations by the Comled to accusations in the Com-mons yesterday that he had displayed a "disastrous combination of arrogance and ineptunde" in his handling of the matter.

"We may end up with the worst of all worlds — innocent people in prison and the guilty walking free " elected.

guilty walking free," claimed the shadow home secretary,

the centrifuge used to analyse samples had been contaminated with Semtex for the past six years, which called into question the safety of some of the most high-profile

The reforms endorsed by the Lord Chief Justice in No-vember 1994 had first been put forward three years ago by the Royal Commission on Criminal Justice, which was set up on the day that the Bir-mingham Siy ware freed least 12 IRA bombers at risk.

Lord Taylor warned Mr
Howard in November 1994
that specific remedial action

gunly warning in the convictions of at least 12 IRA bombers at risk.

Mr Howard was forced to travel at short notice from the least 12 IRA bombers at risk.

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Mr Howard was forced to travel at short notice from the least 12 IRA bombers at risk.

Lord Taylor told the Home Secretary that his "silence was becoming deafening". The scientists at the labora

tory involved in the latest blunder — the Fort Halstead Forensic Explosives Laboratory in Kent — were also in-volved in the presentation of unreliable forensic evidence in one of the most celebrated miscarriages of justice in the 1980s, that of the Maguires.

Morale amongst Britain's forensic scientists has already been shaken by plans to close some laboratories and

merge others. Staff at five of the seven forensic science laboratories passed votes of no confidence ast two weeks.

Criminal Justice made 40 recommendations, including establishment of an external Forensic Science Advisory Council, for improving per-formance and standards in

the laboratories.
In fact, these proposals were first put to the Royal Commission by Professor Brian Caddy on behalf of the Royal Society of Chemistry the very man Mr Howard this week put in charge of the in-dependent inquiry into the

Mr Howard failed to answer when Mr Straw challenged him in the Commons to explain why he had not acted on these warnings. "On every oc-casion to date, ministers have shown breathtaking compla-cency in resisting proper in-dependent scrutiny of the work of these laboratories," of the inquiry that is appro-priate and to identify and ap-

said Mr Straw. "The Home Secretary is directly and per-sonally responsible for this failure to act."

tory on April 19 and that he had known of it for three

fied to carry it out. When that process was complete. I brought the matter to the Commons. I simply do not see how I could possibly have Mr Howard did disclose yesterday that the Home acted more expeditiously," he Office first learned of the mis-take at the Sevenoaks labora-The discovery of the blunders at the Sevenoaks labora-tory will not only affect the cases of those who have ai-

weeks. Mr Howard said he had been told orally on April its flawed evidence but also 22 and was formally notified will throw into doubt a numin a report on April 26. ber of forthcoming trials where forensic results form a "It obviously does take a lit-tle time to decide on the form

> One prominent trial sched-uled for later this year will involve Semtex test evidence as a key plank of the prosecu-tion case. A CPS spokes-woman said yesterday that it would be awaiting the results of Prof Caddy's investigation before deciding on how to

Among other cases in-volved are several against an-

### British writer wins female book prize

HE National Liberal Club in London rever-berated to whoops and cheers last night when the British writer, Helen Dunmore, was awarded the first Orange prize for women writers of fiction.

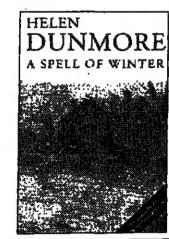
Ms Dunmore was presented with a statuette, called a Bessie, and a cheque for £30,000 by the actress Juliet Stevention writers in the English language ultimately came down to a choice between Ms Dunmore, the bookmakers' favourite and the American-born writer resident in Brit-

ain, Marianne Wiggins. Kate Mosse, chair of the judges, brushed aside criticism of the women-only prize, saying that it served to sell

The third novel of a poet and children's writer, A Spell Of Winter is about a middleclass family in the run-up to

the first world war. The Orange prize has been dogged by controversy since it was first announced. Born out of the Booker prize, the Orange followed in the best

the five-woman panel and chief book reviewer for the Daily Mail, said that of the 146 that had been submitted for the prize, she had "seldom come across books that were



The prize was sparked by the late writer Angela Car-ter's failure to make the 1991 Booker Prize shortlist for her final novel, Wise Children.

Only four out of 30 nominees for the Booker in the last five years have been women, while women have won the Nobel prize for literature on only eight occasions this cen-

Intended to counter per-ceived discrimination, the Orange prize succeeded in attracting charges of both discrimination and political

Organisers argued that the Orange, open to women of any nationality writing in English, was actually more open than any of the other prizes, pointing out that the Booker is restricted to Com-monwealth writers.

The presence of four American writers and only two Brit-ish women on the shortlist. however, attracted further Alarmed by the bad public-

ity, the initial sponsors of the prize, 'Misubishi, withdrew their support in September 1994. It seemed that the project would falter, until an anonymous woman benfactor stepped forward to provide traditions of Britain's most famous literary award when the judges fell out as soon as the shortlist was announced.

Val Hennessy, a member of with a commitment to spend £210,000 over the next three

years.
Despite the brickbats, organisers remained enthusias-tic.Ms Mosse said that she was determined to persevere with a prize that rewarded novels not writers, books not reputations".

The Orange's £30,000 is the second most lucrative prize on the crowded\_literary awards circuit. The most prize money goes to the win-ner of the relatively obscure National Literature Prize, while the NCR Book Award, announced next week offers £25,000, the Whitbread £21,500, and the Booker

Ironically, the most recent winners of both the Booker and the Whitbread have been women: Pat Barker won the Booker for The Ghost Road, while Kate Atkinson won the Whitbread for Behind the Scenes At the Museum.



Orange winner Helen Dunmore . . . I suppose I shall spend the £30,000 prize money very easily

#### Profile

'An electrifying talent with a lyrical style'

ASPELL Of Winter is the Athird novel by the Bristol-based Helen Dummore, writes Dan Glaister. The story of a middle-class family in the run-up to the first world war, it

her as "an electrifying and celebrate the achievements style has been compared original talent, a writer of women's fiction." original talent, a writer whose style is charactersed by a lyrical, dreamy

Dunmore, aged 43, married with a stepson, a son and a daughter, said that she had not been disconcerted by the farore sur rounding the women-only prize. "I don't think the fact that women won the Whitbread and the Booker have affected what the Orange prize set out to do,"

Marianne Brace described are very foolish if we don't highly praised. Her poetic

The Yorkshire-born Dunmore came to attention as a children's writer and as a poet. "I wouldn't define myself as a children's writer, a poet or a novelist because I want to feel that we can push the boundaries of what we are. "When I was 25, people

said to me I was a poet," she said. "Now they say to me that I am a novelist. Maybe one day I will be a playwright."

deals with sensitive issues, including incest. Reviewing the novel in the Guardian, the English language. We in Darkness, were both

Jeanette Winterson.

Her poetry collections in-clude the Sea Skater, which won the Poetry Society's Alice Hunt Bartlett Award. Asked how she planned to spend the £30,000 prize money, she said: "I suppose
I shall spend it very easily," adding: "People are always surprised when writmillion. ers receive money, as if they don't have mortgages

to pay."
Dunmore has already completed her next novel, Talking To The Dead. It is to be published in July.

### **Baring takes** blame for bank's crash

Patrick Donovan

HE former chairman of Barings Bank, Peter Baring, yester-day admitted for the first time that he and other top directors must "share res-possibility" for its collapse after disastrous trading deals by its Singapore based trader, Nick Leeson.

proach the person best quali

Mr Baring, who appeared before the all-party Treasury Select Committee with the bank's former deputy chair-man, Andrew Tuckey, agreed there had been "serious failure of controls and manage

But Mr Baring insisted that

Nick Leeson, who is serving a prison sentence in Singapore for offences which led to the bank's collapse last year, was the "only criminal" involved. Although he was accuse by openly sceptical MPs of "telling fairy stories". Mr Baring, who is a direct descendant of the family which founded the City's most ven-erable financial institution more than 200 years ago, in-sisted that no directors had

been "stupid, greedy or idle". Mr Baring refused to name which Barings director had overall responsibility for overseeing Mr Leeson. He told MPs that he was aware of the reporting structure but added that he felt it was "not right for me to judge former colleagues with which I share

Although he had been coached about how to answer questions at a select commit-tee by Tory MP and former Trade minister, Edward Leigh, both Mr Baring and Mr Tuckey appeared ill-at-

ease throughout the two-hour MPs joked about their own £34,000-a-year income after Mr Baring disclosed that be was earning £1.25 million just before the bank collapsed; his deputy. Mr Tuckey, was on a

salary of around £1.95 Mr Baring refused to say whether he thought he should repay further bonus pay-

ments he had received during 1993 which had been based on profits made from Singapore spiracy with Mr Leeson were deals.

old Mr Leeson had been given responsibility for running huge trading positions al-though he had "no profes-sional qualifications as such". He pointed out that be-fore the bank's collapse Mr Leeson had won the title of Singapore's Trader of the

He insisted that directors had never been suspicious of the huge profits generated through its Singapore operations, pointing out that it was not unusual for international broking operations to generate huge sums from "almost risk-free" transactions.

Mr Baring, who said he had been a banker for 25 years, said he was "numerate enough" to understand how

'Leeson was the only criminal no directors were stupid, greedy or idle

the bank had operated. But mitted that neither had been lion) of funds transferred on the request of Mr Leeson to Singapore just before the bank collapsed.

He said directors had no advance knowledge that Mr Leeson had been jeopardising the bank by ignoring strict dealing regulations which prohib-ited him from entering into highly risky "open-ended

trading positions".

He addedthat the bank had never seen a need to draw up formal rules which would have prevented Mr Leeson from covering up his fraud by running both the trading and administrative ends of the

Drawing a sceptical response from several MPs, he added that this was because the risks were "so obvious that it would be like telling your children not to walk in the middle of the road". He added that suggestions that other managers could

have been involved in a con-

### Doubts over legacy from 'abuser' actor

#### Charity uncertain over £240,000 bequest after daughter's claims

David Brindle, Social

CHILDREN'S charity is reconsidering whether to accept a £240,000 bequest by the late comic actor Arthur Mullard, after claims yesterday that he abused his daughter. The charity, NCH Action

for Children, has not yet received the money. It said the allegations had made the issue "more complicated". Mr Mullard, who died last his daughter, Barbara Lucas,

neering pervert" who sexually abused her from the age of 13 and drove her mother to suicide.

In an interview yesterday, Ms Lucas said her father had "As I got older he thought that having his way with me was part of conjugal rights. I ceased to be his daughter, I was his partner and I had to

provide sex for him, no arguing." The suicide in 1961 of her December at the age of 85, achieved fame as a larger-than-life, affable cockney. But

| "I don't want to live any more | spite because of what you're doing with Barbara".

Ms Lucas told the Daily Mail: "My father tore up that

note in front of me. Only he and I knew about that note."

A planned programme on
Mr Mullard for the television series This is Your Life was reportedly cancelled after the show's researchers spoke to

been an argument over his money, after which he had threatened to leave it all to

NCH and £5,000 each to his younger son and Ms Lucas, a The suicide in 1961 of her younger son and Ms Lucas, a Yus, My Dear, in which he mother, Flo, was related directly to the abuse.

She had left a note saying: towards the end of his life de-

A spokeswoman for NCH, which works with abused children, said: "These allegations of sexual abuse have made this legacy a bit more complicated.
"We will be looking at the

issues involved to see whether we are going to ac-

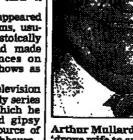
ally in the guise of a stolcally cheery Cockney, and made numerous appearances on television in such shows as His best known television role was in the comedy series



Arthur Mullard . . . 'drove wife to suicids'

#### cept the money or turn it Brian, his elder son. However, his other son, Johnny, said that there had told her there was nothing wrong or unusual in sexual contact between them. Arthur Mullard appeared in more than 100 films, usu-

charity.
In the event, Mr Mullard left almost all his estate to Celebrity Squares.





While British politics is about short-term gain and longterm savings, France basks in the consistent thread of strategy. The high-speed rail network and high-grade educational system for all from 3 to 18 are non-negotiable.

Jon Snow, page 9

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News in brief

#### 'Ethnic neglect' in education

THE Commission for Racial Equality yesterday accused the Government of "lamentable neglect" for failing to take seriously a crisis of educational under-achievement by some ethnic groups. Herman Ouseley, its chairman, said the Office for Standards in Education delayed publication of a report exposing the poor preparation for life given to Bangladeshi children of both sexes and to Afro-Caribbean and white working class

Gillian Shephard, the Education and Employment Secretary, had not replied to the CRE's request for a meeting to discuss the need for proper ethnic monitoring, he said. There was no reason why there should not be an ethnic breakdown of chil-dren's levels of achievement, comparable to data showing girls

increasingly surpassing boys at most ages.

"There is a huge problem building up," Mr Ouseley said. "It does not appear to have been given the seriousness of response required from Ofsted or the Department for Education. We have been pressurising, but the response from the department

Ofsted said the report on ethnic minority education would be published in the summer. — John Caroel

#### Rail crash blamed on muddle

A FATAL rail crash on remote Pennine moorland is to be blamed on an internal muddle at Railtrack which led to radio warnings of a landslip going to the wrong train.

A Railways Inspectorate report on the tragedy at Aisgill in Cumbria, when two trains collided killing a conductor and injuring 26 passengers in January 1995, has concluded that emergency staff in Crewe had out-of-date codes for contacting services on the

The report will not be published until after an inquest into the death of Stuart Wilson, who died trying to help passengers to safety from a local Sprinter service derailed by a mudslide. The train was hit at night in atrocious weather by a trans Pennine express which Railtrack radio staff had been vainly trying to warn for six minutes.

The Department of Transport turned down requests for a public inquiry after the accident on the grounds that the facts would be made public at the inquest.

Ralltrack said yesterday that new rall maps with correct code numbers prominently displayed had been issued to all radio control staff following the tragedy. The rail union Aslef repeated its call for a public inquiry. — Martin Watmaright

#### Channel 4 attacks critics

A SENIOR Channel 4 executive launched a fierce counter-attack last night against tabloid critics of the station's controversial output. Director of programmes John Willis accused the Daily Mail — which dubbed the channel's chief executive Michael Grade "Britain's pornographer-in-chief" — of waging a victous and sustained campaign. He described Mail editor Paul Dacre as "the With Studen Channel"

"the Witchfinder General".

The station has faced strong criticism for an aborted psychiatrists' couch documentary on the Princess of Wales, swearing on Chris Evans's TFI Friday, the Red Light Zone season about the sex industry, the Dyke TV season for lesbians, and the Friday night youth programmes, including The Word, The Girlie Show and Eurotrash. Mr Willis, speaking to the Royal Television Society in London, said the Mail had been attacking the charmel since its launch in 1982. — Andrew Culf

#### Army's 'unfit' recruits

THE army is to extend basic training for raw recruits from the traditional 10 weeks to 12 to allow unhealthy teenagers to reach required standards of physical fitness at a gentler pace. All three services are facing growing problems because the pool of poten-tial recruits is diminishing as more youngsters stay in higher education. Those who do apply are no longer as physically active

as previous generations.

Despite the sale of some 5,000 school playing fields and past disputes with the teachers which hit school sports, Tory ministers blame anti-competitive "political correctness" for the decline and

are determined to reverse it.

The sports minister Iain Spreat is in negotiation with the
Ministry of Defence to enable local communities to use more of the lavish sports and recreational facilities on military bases as part of the drive to improve fitness. Defence ministers and officials are keen to co-operate. - Michael White

#### Discrimination payouts up

AWARDS in sex discrimination cases have trebled since official limits on compensation were scrapped 2½ years ago, a report showed yesterday. Average payouts have risen to £12,712, although if the spate of cases involving pregnant servicewomen is excluded, the figure is £3,777, says a report by Industrial Relations

Injury to feelings awards have also risen since 1993 to an average of £1,696 from £1,349. Awards in race discrimination ca are up by 63 per cent. The report's co-editor, Gary Bowker, said: "The removal of the limit on compensation in discrimination cases is having a significant effect on the size of the awards, with employers having to pay far more for their unlawful actions."

#### Life for 'merciless' killing

TWO men were jailed for life yesterday for shooting dead a father of three in an unprovoked street attack in March last year. Colin Moore, aged 23, and Ian Widdowson. 21, armed with a shotgum and a knife, set about Joe Clarke, 43, and his son Robert, 17, because they glanced across a street at their noisy and drunken

During the subsequent struggle Moore fired a shot into Mr Clarke's left buttock then re-loaded and fatally blasted him in the chest. Sentencing them at Durham crown court, the judge said: "You have to answer for a cruel and merciless killing. It is too late now to say you are sorry."

Mr Clarke, a bus driver, and his son were attacked as they

walked to their home in Wallsend, north Tyneside, after visiting a social club.

Moore, of Newcastle upon Tyne, changed his plea to guilty five days into the trial. Widdowson, of North Shields, admitted man-slaughter but this was rejected by the jury, which unanimously found him guilty of murder.

Bogus claims have become a target for organised criminals and may total £2 billion a year, say MPs

### Gangs in benefit swindles

usualty Affairs Editor

RGANISED crimi nals are swindling the state of millions of pounds a year in bogus benefit claims, prompting MPs to demand more high profile prosecutions and exemplary sentences for fraudsters.

Frank Field, chairman of the Commons social security committee, said that an investigation of private landlords responsible for more than 20 homes on which benefit was claimed would reveal "mor multi-millionaires created through housing benefit than through the National Lot-

and confidentiality should be up to a fifth of the £10 billion and awards made by reviewed to help stop the housing benefit bill may be si-

Consortium wins £1bn deal

PRIVATE consortium yesterday won a £1 billion contract to install and run a computer system in post offices designed to "virtually elimi-nate" benefit fraud at the point of payment, writes David Brindle.

Under the deal, by which every benefit recipient will be issued with a plastic pay-ment card, the consortium will bear any losses through fraud by people who beat the system.

report yesterday. It called for a change in culture that toler-

Peter Lilley, Social Security Secretary, said he hoped to make annual frand savings of £150 million once the system was fully operational in three years' time. The scheme should pay for itself over the eight years of the

The consortium is led by ICL and also comprises Girobank and An Post, the Irish post office. Its system is based on one already op-erating in Ireland.

fraud, the committee said in a | phoned off illegally. MPs wanted more vigilance over the £90 billion state benefit and awards made by central

The all-party committee! The committee admitted it | two Department of Transport tackled housing benefit first | did not know the extent of inspectors were killed in 1993 because of the sums that went | housing benefit fraud but said | while inquiring into fake "third parties", private landlords or their agents, whom committee members believe are responsible for

nost malpractice. Mr Field said: "We are concerned about the protection of individual civil liberties but we want the issue looked at again to ensure that proper concern does not become such an obsession that it protects those who are behaving criminally.

The committee pressed for more powers to check on landlords' and claimants' tax and national insurance

State records should be made more secure against cheats impersonating others. Mr Field suggested using DNA and fingerprinting

The committee admitted it I two Department of Transport. it may be twice as high as the Government's £1 billion

Payments almost doubled in five years while the inising subsidies to tenants in the private sector meant much was going directly to landlords.

Many serious frauds, including faise addresses, fictitious tenancies, multiple identities, false income decla-rations and forgery of cheques could only be maintained for long periods with the active support of land-lords and their agents. The report said: These

most serious cases have nothing to do with poverty or desperation. They are organised crimes motivated by greed and deceit."

MoT certificates as an exam-

Chris Smith, Labour's social security spokesman accepted the recommendations. "The main reason for the growth in housing benefit fraud is the growth of housing benefit itself which is the direct result of the boom in dependency caused by gov-

ernment policies." Liz Lynne, the Liberal Democrats' social security spokes woman, said there had to be better targeting of the benefit cheais, rather than "sweeping up the innocent and criminals together".

Housing Benefit Fraud, Volume 1 (211.50); Volume 11, minutes



NGLISH Heritage has petitioned the House of Lords to amend the Channel Tunnel Rail Link Bill to include protection for the listed buildings at King's Cross, including the Victorian gasometers above, and Sir George Gilbert Scott's magnificent Gothic railway hotel, writes Magn

Reglish Heritage has acted after months of private negotiations with the rail link developers, London and Continental Railways, failed to guarantee the future of the buildings:

| Continental Railways, failed to guarantee the future of the buildings:

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petitions to the Lords on the bill. St Pancras Chambers, the former Midland Grand Hotel, which has recently been partly restored using over £10 million in public money, is Grade I listed and would normally have the highest protection against

unsympathetic alteration. However,

behind the station, which are part of the proposed commercial develop-ment linked to the new rail terminal. English Heritage proposes they should be dismantled, and rebuilt, along with the locomotive watering point which dates from the steam age

The proposals would require London and Continental Railways to find an appropriate use for the St Pancras Chambers within two years of the terminal opening, or to offer it for sale

### **Labour set** to shake up the utilities

Patrick Wintour, Chief Political Correspondent

posed under Labour on the privatised atility companies if they fall to maintain supplies

Proposals to be discussed by the National Policy Forum at the weekend, are part of a draft paper to replace the par-ty's old Clause Four ideology

with stakeholding. The big water, gas and elec-tricity utility companies would also have to take out insurance against the cost of fines and compensation claims.

These measures would be on top of the one-off windfall levy on the utility companies ch the shadow chancellor, Gorden Brown, yesterday confirmed would be hundreds of millions of pounds. The proposals - drawn up

after Labour Party consulta tion with the industry — in-clude plans to end "the culutility regulators by making them answerable to new nonexecutive boards, including All the minutes and docu-

ments on which regulators make their decisions would also be published. In further measures likely

to fill utility companies with gloom, Labour would scrap the price-capping formula — which it describes as weak and liable to produce excess profits — and replace it with one strictly linked to profits.

increases in profit beyond a "normal" level would then only be allowed if prices were simultaneously cut. Condemning the current regulatory regime, the

Labour paper, leaked to the Guardian, says: "It some-times seems that the regulators are only fully accountable when their contracts end and the question of their reap-pointment arises. In fact [they] are non-elected officials making important decisions on industrial policy without adequate accountability to anyone. In a democratic society this is not acceptable."

The paper claims regulators have allowed companies to make enormous profits, and caused a spate of take-overs and mergers which "has ended in a completely different structure than in different structure than in- reach service quality targets.

tended at the time of

Overall, Labour insists the pace of competition has been for participants to prepare. Labour's industry team, led by Margaret Beckett, also proposes:

policy in which third parties can win interim court injunctions to stop restrictive prac-tices pending an inquiry. Discussion of the functions of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission and the Office of Fair Trading, creat-

ing a unitary Competitive and Consumer Standards Office.

A halt to the privatisation of the public sector research establishments and a strengthening and rationalisation of UK patent rights. OA small business corpora-tion tax linked to stable longterm indicators like turnover.

'For the first time the party fleshes out Blair's call for a stakeholding economy'

For the first time, the party fleshes out the bones of Tony Blair's call for a stakeholding economy, saying it would set up an expert panel on corpo-rate governance to draw up a code of practice on stakeholding. It would also examine whether non-executive directors should be given greater independence; possibly being given three-year contracts.

Labour would open the way for continental style two-tier boards, with non-executive disory board. Shareholders would be given legal rights to vote on directors' remuneration packages at company annual general meetings, and rights to re-elect remuneration committees.

In discussing its approach to the utilities, the paper says "swingeing penalties should be drawn up for service failure and those penalties should increase sharply if that fallure is a should increase sharply if that failure is sustained It also suggests a sliding scale of compensation to con-

sumers when utilities do not

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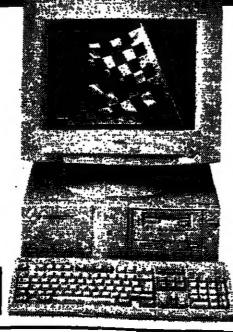
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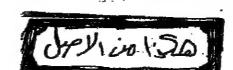




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Survey shows 80pc are in fear of losing their jobs

### Millennium offers **workers little joy**

**Gary Younge** 

Worker of the year 2010 will be older, lonelier and feel less professionally secure as he fights a losing battle to halance job, family life and bank account. account, says a survey released yesterday. The British workforce har-

bours a deep anxiety about how the millennium will affect working and personal lives, says the report, Chang-ing Work Patterns — a Crisis ducted by Mintel, the market research analysts.

Employment worries plague four-fifths of adults, with 21 per cent concerns.

with 21 per cent concerned about finding work and 19 per cent fearing loss of their job.

Social and emotional marries Social and emotional worries are set to increase six-fold

ing number of single-person households," predicts the company's senior financial

analyst, Paul Hersey.

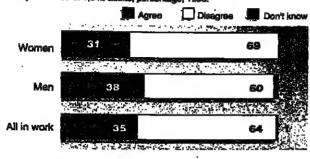
More than a third of those
in work claimed their social
and family lives were being affected because they worked too many hours.

Only four in 10 adults are

looking forward to the millen-nium, and the number of people happy with their stan-dard of living has dropped by 16 per cent between 1990 and 1995. The young and single are more optimistic than the old and married, with those

Social and emotional worries are set to increase six-fold over the next 10 years, and loneliness will become a social issue with the increas-

All work and no play... find I am having to work too many hours and this is affecting my social and 1,542 adults, percentage, 1996.



"This suggests that the pub-lic is slowly recognising that economic risk is shifting away from the state and company to the individual," Mr Hersey says. Some see their salvation in

starting their own business, with one in five intending to do so within the next 10 years. most of them young men. However as feminists have

long been predicting, the future will be female, with more women entering the workforce, which, says Min-tel, should have a beneficial knock-on effect for older The report's summary says

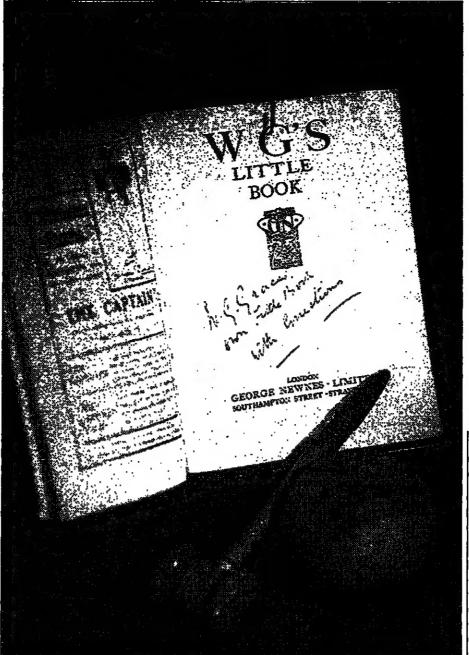
that more better-educated career women will lead to a decline in the birth rate at a time when more people will be needed in the workplace. This will lead to a 28 per cent rise in 55 to 64-year-olds and a 22 per cent drop in those aged

between 25 and 34.

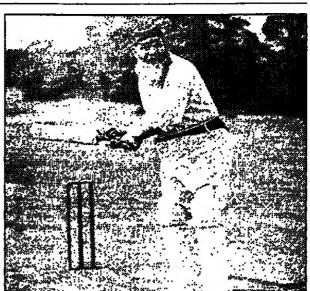
Mr Hersey believes these demographic changes will end the binge of "downsizing" that saw thousands of workers, particularly older ones, sacked in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

"I think there will be a far greater appreciation of experience and more commitment to retraining workers than getting rid of them and then having to train new ones," Mr Hersey says. Within Mintel's crystal ball

comes signs that many pre-dictions from the past have proved hopelessly wide of the mark. Only a third of households will have a computer by the year 2000 and less than 3 per cent of the working popu-



One of the volumes algued by its author to be auctioned on July 11, and (top right) W G Grace at the wicket, one of the photographs in the collection



#### W G Grace memorabilia sale presents unique slice of cricket history

put on the 150 cricketing volumes included in the auction. "Estimates are A SLICE of cricketing his-tory comes up for sale this summer when a collection of books once owned by the most famous name in the sport is auctioned in Devon, writes Geoffrey Gibbs. The collection includes a set of bound Wisdens that belonged to the legendary Gloucestershire and Eng-land captain WG Grace, with cricketing books by and about him, and a number of photographs. Many of the books carry his

signature. Sale of the collection comes at a time of remarkable buoyancy in the market for such items. Robin Barlow, of fine art

rare complete set of the Wisdens from 1864, when the cricketing almanac was first published, until 1915, the year Grace died. All the volumes from 1864 until 1898 are signed. Among the books up for

auction last week for Sir Donald Bradman's bat rein-

forced the strong interest

in cricketing memorabilia.

on July 11 was expected to attract international inter-

est. But it was impossible to

say what value might be

based on comparisons, but this is unique," he said at

the firm's Exeter salerooms yesterday.
Among the 116 lots is a

He said the sale in Exeter

auction are a signed copy of Grace's Cricketing Remi-niscences, in which he confesses himself a reluctant

"Writing is not a recrea-tion I care for," admits the player who scored more than 54,900 runs and took auctioneers Bearne's, who are handling the sale, says the record £23,000 paid at lustrious career.



than animals because an animal can roam when it is hungry.

September There is a big welt on my arm where I was whipped yesterday for falling asleep at the loom.

October The boss says we are behind on the carpet. We are too slow. So instead of starting at six we will start at four. And instead of stopping at eight we will stop at 11. Three boys are crying

November A big commotion today. Nageshwar and his two younger brothers escaped.

December Nageshwar is back and we have been told that the same thing will happen to us if we try to escape. He has been branded with hot iron rods.

January I want to study, I want to be a teacher, and when I grow up I will earn money and help my father out of his debt. That's what I want to do, if I get

### DIARY OF A SURVIVOR AGED 81/2

from our beds to the loom at six. No-one must talk. We tie tiny knots all day, the smallest ones on the carpet because we have small fingers. Work, work, work. My fingers crack and weep and sometimes my eyes get all blurred. We get a cup of dahl and half an hour to rest then go back to the loom till night time. There is no more food. We are too tired to play.

February I don't know why I am here.

I think my Papa sold me to the boss to

learn a trade and now the boss says I

March it's the same every day. We go

must do exactly what he tells me.

April Paro talked today and the boss lashed her with the cane. He shouted at us "if you children speak you are not giving your whole attention to the product."

May My fingers bled again and the boss got angry with me for getting blood on the loom. He says I will work extra hours for the next two days and I will be fined and that will increase my father's debt to him. I cried when he talked about Papa.

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June The boy who lost a hand, poor Rangilal, he fainted today. We begged the boss to open the window. "The mud walls are hot sir. The thermometer says 105 sir." But the window stays shut to keep out the insects that eat

july Not much light gets through the polythene slats in the roof. It's hard to see the pattern. I made mistakes today and I'm frightened what will happen when the boss finds out.

August in bed tonight, Nageshwar told me his plan to escape. He is brave but he is bigger than me. He said we live worse

This diary is based on interviews with Madan Rom and other children recently working in carpet factories in Uttar Pradesh, India.

These children have been rehabilitated with the help of Christian Aid, but in India alone an estimated 15 million children still spend their entire childhoods slaving in bonded labour to help their parents out of debt.

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### Offenders to lose 'porn'

#### Howard to stop sex attackers retaining witness statements

Duncan Campbell Crime Correspondent

LANS for legislation to prevent sex offenders from using witness statements and photographs as pornography were an-nounced by the Home Secretary yesterday. Under the new rules, paedophiles and other sex offenders will no may be deterred from coming out for the benefit of the longer be allowed to keep sensitive material.

Michael Howard announced the move to 1,000 delegates at the Police Federation conference Scarborough, There has been a growing tendency for sex offenders in prison to swop or trade in explicit witness statements about rape and indecent assault. Such prisoners are allowed to retain all state-

dence relating to their cases.
"Victims of sexual offences suffer appalling crimes," Mr Howard said. "Their distress

ments and photographic evi-

defendants and their friends misusing victims' statements and photographs as a form of pornography."
Mr Howard stressed that

defendants should be allowed to see all the evidence against them. "But for them to keep and misuse sensitive material forward in sex cases if they think that their evidence may be misused in this way.

Legislation on stalking and

gun control was also promised by Mr Howard. Earlier a scathing about the Government's slow response to calls for legislative action on stalking. Alan Gordon, of Hampshire police, said that if Can-ada, Australia and 48 states in the US could draft adequate legislation on stalking it should be possible for the

tion, Fred Broughton, told the conference that throughout the 1980s there had been a retreat from law and order. He said this had astounded the police as it had resulted from a party that came into office "on the back of the strongest law and order platform in electoral history

But he congratulated Mr Howard on having brought about crucial changes in the rules of evidence so that criminal trials might become more lawyers".

However Mr Broughton was critical of Mr Howard for accepting a recommendation to abolish a housing allowance for officers. "You delivconference debate had been ered a major blow to our conditions of service," he said.

The conference also passed a motion calling for the federation to review its policy on gun control as a result of the Dunblane tragedy. Dave that without changes in the gun laws the events of Dun-blane could be repeated any-Government to do so too.

The chairman of the federa- where in Britain tomorrow.

#### Gummer takes action to save rare cabbage beetle

ABEETLE that lives on a Aspecies of cabbage so rare it is found only on a small island in the Bristol Channel may seem not to have much future — but the Lundy cabbage flea beetle has powerful friends.

One is John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, who has appointed the National Trust as guardian of the beetle's food supply, the Lundy cabbage, and thereby ensured the survival of the two-millinetre long insect. Mr Gummer is responsible

for ensuring that the United Kingdom fulfils its international treaty obligations and looks after the diversity of animals, plants, and insects in

As part of the Biodiversity Action Plan he asked yesterday for organisations and companies to act as guardians for 150 species threatened by man's management of the countryside. Many of them, like the Lundy cabbage, are almost unknown, but some, like the dormouse, red squirrel and skylark, are celebrated in Victorian fairy tales and poetry but in 1996 are in ianger of disappearing.

Mr Gummer made an im-

passioned plea for the skylark yesterday and then accepted that saving it as a common country-ide bird would be difficult, since its rapid decline was due to intensive farming. The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds has agreed to

help.
Other species are easier to save. The Lundy cabbage has een isolated on the island for at least 10,000 years and is part of the gene bank of the wild cabbage. If anything goes wrong with the domestic stock through excessive inbreeding, it will be a valuable

resource. The National Trust is to

limit the number of sheep on said yesterday, threatening the mile-long island to give legal action if a reserve were the cabbage a greater chance of survival.

The tiny Desmoulin's from it. A Department of En-Whorl snail, one of the vironment spokeswoman said species on Mr Gummer's list, the snail was also found at is at risk from the building of the Newbury bypass in Berkshire, Friends of the Earth serving the species.



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### Russians get TV lesson in democracy

#### **Eyewitness**

#### David Hearst in Moscow

EN minutes is a long time in Russian politics. To a sensible member of the opposition, such as Grigory Yavlinsky, 10 minutes' access to television is the chance of a lifetime. How would he use his first party political broadcast on a television service whose output is dominated by

President Boris Yeltsin? Mr Yavlinsky appeared in a dark blue suit, his untidy hair closely cropped and neatly combed. He was sitting at a desk, his arms folded. He was preparing to tell Russia some-thing important.

Was be going to talk about democracy, the rule of law, his economic programme? The jaws of his supporters.

#### 'Once in every four years the bosses are beholden to us. We elect the president'

half of whom are the rem-nants of Russia's battered intelligentsia, dropped as he explained to millions of lags or other illegalities re-ordinary Russians how to emerging. Everything will be

"You come to the polling station. You take a ballot sheet. You find the name of the candidate you want to support. You put your mark ind after this you drop the ballot sheet in the box," he

What, he asked does a presidential election in Russia ac-tually mean? Taped inter-views with Russian villagers

A worker, wearing a fur hat and sitting on a log, asked:
"What the hell do we need
elections for?" A woman
tried, with difficulty, to tried, with difficulty, to understand the question this argument. Mr Yavlinsky

Another man appeared. "We certainly know nothing about this. This is all darkness for me." he said.

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Mr Yavlinsky then ex-

holden to our bosses, but once in every four years the bosses are beholden to us. Once in

are beholden to us. Once in every four years, we elect the president and it is he who is the biggest boss."

To many Russians, blud-geoned into cowering apathy by centuries of autocratic rule. Mr Yavlinsky was saying something genuinely new. A loco appeared on the screen: What are our legal rights? A man answered: "I don't believe in all these bal-lot papers. They'll fix every-thing. Another said: "To thing." Another said: "To vote or not to vote. They'll invent as many votes as they

The man on his log appeared once again. Asked what he thought his legal rights were, he paused, smiled, and broke into a gurgling, unstoppable belly

laugh.

He was right, of course.

Laughter is the only appropriate response to a system where the Central Electoral

Commission is subject to the president, who happens to be

one of the candidates. Mr Yavlinsky explained the rules of majority voting in two rounds, how if everyone stayed away thinking their vote did not count, their president would be elected by a

minority of the people.

Meanwhile, the main communist challenger, Gennady Zyuganov, also posed as man of law in his first party political broadcast — in his case, on radio, "There should be no fears of prisons or Gubased on the courts' deci-sions," he said. Ah. but who are the judges?

Vladimir Zhirinovsky, the extreme nationalist, said: "We need an emperor ... a president with huge powers similar to those of the tsars or of the [Communist Party's] general secretaries."

But Mr Yavlinsky showed respect to his village audi-ence. He said a vote today was vote for their children's future. It could not be moti-vated by anger. It had to be a considered and serious

"What are you speaking has spoken to Mr Yeltsin about? You mean Yeltsin's reelection?"

has spoken to Mr Yeltsin about forming a pre-election pact, in which Mr Yaylinsky could become prime minister Which makes all the talk of votes hogwash. So it was, after all, a party political broadcast in the best Western



Street party . . . Human posters supporting Civic Democratic Party leader Vaclav Klaus walked around Prague yesterday as Czech election campaigning beganneroscenne rem lose

### Gibraltar elections fought on sovereignty issue

The chief minister faces defeat by a lawyer running on a ticket of closer ties with Spain and cashing in on discontent provoked by riots over smuggling. Adela Gooch reports from Madrid

PAIN must "bury any hope" of recovering Gibraltar, the Rock's veteran chief minister, Joe Bos-sano, told voters gathered in the Laguna housing estate.

Up the road, Peter Caruana, his main rival in today's elections to the 15-seat assembly. eccused him of tarnishing the colony by turning a blind eye to smuggling. "It is time to break with decline and in-timidation," said Mr Car-uana, who is leading the polls on a ticket of better relations with Spain.

An enormous screen showed film of riots last July. fast boats are now moored

Rock and did much to shatter Gibraltarians' faith in Mr Bossano. who is running for a

third consecutive term. The riots were provoked by Mr Bossano's ban on speed-boats belonging to the "Winston boys" who use Gibraltar as a base to ferry tobacco and drugs from North Africa to Spain. Several policemen were injured after "the boys" took to the streets.

Diplomatic pressure from Spain had led Britain to threaten Mr Bossano with direct rule from Westminster if he did not act. Most of the just across the border at La Linea, in the Campo de Gi-

braltar — one of Spain's most depressed regions and a tradi-tional smugglers' haunt. For many of the Rock's 31,000 inhabitants, however,

the damage is done. They are set to vote for Mr Caruana's Social Democrats. depriving Mr Bossano's Labour Party of the 73 per cent mandate he secured in 1992. They are proud of their history as a loyal British gar-rison town. They do not like to be considered a hotbed of corruption, and they are tired of queueing for hours at the frontier to undergo Spanish police checks. They are also worried by unemployment

"There has always been smuggling in this area but drugs are different," said one local. "It is changing Gibral-tar from a peaceful, law-abiding place into something we

ain improve the economy by promoting tourism, make the government more accountable and raise the possibility of talks with Spain.

"We have nothing to lose by dialogue with a veto in the sovereignty issue and our own voice in any talks," said Mr Caruana, whose election

There has always been smuggling in this area but drugs are different. It is changing Gibraltar'

could trigger a new backlash against the Winston boys. "Sotograndees" - rich Gibraltarian businessmen who

with Spain.

cook, aged 57, has sought to instil Gibraltarians with a sense of their own identity. He bases his case on the United Nations Charter, which he says gives colonies the right to self-determination. In this election he de-

live in the luxury Sotogrande development on the Costa del Soi and want rapprochement

don't want to be."

Mr Caruana, a lawyer, aged
38, is ready to capitalise on wedge. For the past eight

mands "free association status" similar to that en-joyed by the Channel Islands. His draam of turning Gibraltar into a lucrative tax-haven foundered, however, after Spain turned the screws on Britain with accusations of money-laundering.
Joe Garcia's National

Party, advocating a city-state arrangement like Andorra's, lags a poor third but could split the Caruana vote.

Gibraltar's standing is governed by the 1713 Treaty of Both Britain and Spain Utrecht which says that if want Mr Bossano out. Then, eignty passes directly to Spain. Spain refuses Gibral-

tarians a place at any talks.
The conundrum is compli-cated by a 1969 constitution accepting that Gibraltarians' wishes will be paramount in deciding their future.

the discontent. He promises | years, the former union | hobby-horse of the right to soothe relations with Brit- | leader and merchant navy | Spain's new conservative govening to sever communica-tions. As a result, all the candidates have stepped up

anti-Spanish rhetoric Beneath the harsh words there are strong currents ssue has held up the signing of European Union treaties and proved the main stumbling-block to Spain's full integration into Nato's military structure.

Britain enjoys the benefits of a strategic toehold at the entrance to the Mediterranean, but also faces financial difficulties keeping the col-ony going. Defence spending accounts for only 9 per cent of Gibraltar's income, compared with 70 per cent in 1980.

Both Britain and Spain be many solutions if the political will to implement them lacking, but the defeat of Mr Bossano coupled with a new administration in Spain and the prospect of a Labour government in Britain could lead Gibraltar is a longstanding to progress in the dispute.

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### Germany debates Meinhof legacy

lan Traynor in Bonn reports on the renewed interest in one of Europe's most 'dangerous anarchists' in the 1960s

To feminists in reunified Ger many, she was a pioneering radical. To many liberals of the 1968 generation of rebels and renegades, she is the misunderstood martyr. The rest of the world knew her as one of Europe's most wanted

Ulrike Meinhof, the upper middle-class student polemi cist who with Andreas Baade gave her name to Europe's most feared terrorist organisation, died in her Stuttgart prison call 20 years ago, on Mother's Day, May 1976.

The anniversary of her suicide by hanging from the prison cell window hars is generating a reassessment of her role and significance in

her role and significance in post-war German politics that is tantamount to the rehabilitation of a name once synony-mous with leftwing extrem-ism and terrorist violence. Interest in the Meinhof

myth is intense. A memorial meeting at a Berlin university last week drew thousands who gathered under a giant Meinhof portrait to lament her passing and debate her

legacy.
Feminists in east Berlin staged a play made up largely of her writings, causing local of her writings, causing local from the use of violence as a Meinhof was born in 1937 Christian Democrats to propolitical weapon, she also and adopted at the age of 11,

was Germany's "most being offered posthumously to a terrorist". The newspaper columns are thick with reminiscences and

analyses. Television specials are being screened in an at-tempt to illuminate the Meinbof-led insurgency and whether to keep the legend alive. Meinhof was the intellec-

tual motor of the terrorist Baader-Meinhof gang, who metamorphosed into the Red Army Faction leftwing ex-tremists who bombed and murdered their way to notori-ety and whose activities have ebbed since the demise of the cold war in 1990.

"A group formed around Andreas Baader, Gudrun Eusslin, and Ulrike Meinhof, a group for whom murder was again to become a means of political struggle. But even this fact has never exhausted the fascination with the per-sonality of Ulrike Meinhof," the liberal commentator Juergen Busche wrote.

In the respected Hamburg weekly Die Zeit, Willi

Winkler declared that Mein-hof wanted to "defend not just human dignity, but also the dignity of the German Basic Law [constitution]". if Meinhof did not flinch



Ulrike Meinhof before her court trial in Stuttgart

stood in a German tradition of dogmatic idealism, a tradition that has lingering attractions for younger generations of both right and left.

Her heroic status lives on in the squats of Berlin and In the squats of Berlin and Hamburg radicals, where "Viva Ulrike" is a common graffiti paean — and in the actions of the young hooded radicals who fought pitched battles with riot police in northern Germany last week, vainly seeking to sabotage the transport of radioactive waste transport of radioactive waste

to a temporary storage site.
In the orthodox political spectrum Meinhof remains a revered, if contentious, figure among younger Social Democrats, and especially among the Greens, Europe's most powerful environmentalist

party. Meinhof was born in 1987

after the death of her parents, by an historian. She became active in the youth wing of the Social Democrats, the 1960s' anti-nuclear movement, and the rumbustious student politics that peaked with the 1968 revolt. Her key role, after giving

birth to twin girls in 1960, was to become chief polemicist and eventually editor of the Hamburg student newspaper Konkret, which achieved the

status of a fully-fledged national newspaper.
After she formed her "revo-lutionary cell" with him at the end of the 1960s, Baader was arrested. Meinhof went underground after helping to spring him from jail. Bank raids and attacks on United States army installations followed.

She was arrested in 1972 and two years later was jailed for eight years for attempted murder while springing

Baader. Conditions in Stuttgart's Conditions in Stuttgart's Stammheim prison were notoriously tough. But what was apparently the final straw came in May 1976 when Basder abandoned her. During his tried he said a cortain ing his trial he said a certain bomb attack had been carried out not by the RAF, but, he implied, by Meinhof alone. She killed herself days later.

Her daughter Bettina wrote last week that Meinhof made the common 1960s' mistake of idealising violence with the alm of shaking Germany out of complacency. I think my mother followed the wrong

#### Nato shakes free of US command structure

Reuter in Brussels

ATO agreed yesterday to shed its cold war command system and create the framework for a combined joint task force (CJTF) able to use United States equipment without

in Berlin on June 3 and 4. The US ambassador to Nato, Robert Hunter, called it "the most fundamental change in the Nato struc-

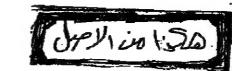
ture in decades".

foreign ministers meeting | mand centres, permanently manned and fully prepared to move at very short notice to any given theatre of operations.

It is the first tangible move towards giving the alliance a more European The CJTF was proposed in September 1993 and slant, preparing it to take adopted at the Nato summit in new members from the in new members from the American personnel in January 1994. In estate a least, and giving it the ability approved by Nato 2 series of core field com-

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### The Guardian Thursday May 16 1996 Nationalists get chance to rule India

MID the beat of vic-Mother India, the prime minister-designate.
Atal Bihari Vajpayee, vowed last night to install the country's first Hindu nationalist

Mr Vajpayee, leader of the Bharatiya Janata Party, had been summoned earlier yes-terday to the presidential palace where he was appointed prime minister and given until May 31 to prove he can command a majority in parliament.

Mr Vajpayee and his cabi-net are to be sworn in today. However, with their main op-ponents — the National Front-Left Front alliance vowing to bring them down, it is by no means certain they can win a parliamentary confidence vote.

Yesterday's decision by President Shankar Dayal Sharma to call on Mr Vajpayee follows frantic efforts by the NF-LF to block the rise to power of a party seen as the enemy of Muslims and lowercaste Hindus.

Although the BJP is the single largest party after last week's inconclusive general election, it has only a third of

the seats in parliament.
The NF-LF, stung by Mr
Sharma's decision to ignore its own claim to govern, vowed yesterday to defeat the BJP and appealed to the president to reconsider. The de-feated Congress has also said it will vote against the gov-

The BJP was in calebratory mood anyway. Minutes after



his meeting with the presi-dent, party workers arrived with bouquets and boxes of MID the beat of vic-tory drums and screams in praise of Mother India, the minister-designs to lant messages on cellular

> Mr Vajpayee, aged 69, has been projected as a BJP mod-erate — a reputation he strove to uphold yesterday. "We will treat all citizens on equal footing. There will be no discrimi-nation on the basis of religion region, caste or class," he told a press conference mobbed by party supporters.

He criticised liberal intel-lectuals who had expressed fears about the BJP, and efforts by its opponents to block its rise. To say that calling the BJP would be to subvert the democratic foundations of India is an insult to the verdict of the people."

Although Mr Vajpayee dodged questions about the BJP's economic and regional policy -- both contentious areas -- he made a point of saying that the party would not waver from its hardline stance on religious issues and the nuclear bomb. Mr Vajpayee said the BJP

supported global disarma ment. "If, however, nuclear bombs get piled up, then for our defence we will take what neasures are necessary

He reaffirmed his belief that Pakistani Kashmir, as well as border areas of China. rightfully belong to India. He also vowed to build a

temple on the ruins of a 16th century mosque in Ayodhya. The destruction of the mosque by Hindu zealots in 1992 led to religious clashes across India which claimed thousands of lives and created a rift between Hindus and Muslims that may take generations to heal. "We want to build the

temple," he said. "We will start construction after discussing it with everyone." Mr Vajpayee, who fancies himself a poet, has spent a lifetime in the militant Hindu organisations that, until this election, were shunned as the training ground for the assas sins of Mahatma Gandhi in

simha Rao, who led the Congrees to its most devastating defeat in nearly 50 years, made his farewells in a national television and radio | event in silence.

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brated director and contender for the Palme d'Or at this year's Cannes film festival. father into a posture of hu-

shouted himself hoarse in violent denunciation. What makes me so angry with myself is that I knew exactly what I was doing," he said. "It was not that someone

same thing but she refused." cause it was exceptional but

Cultural Revolution. as willing as Mr Chen to con

front the trauma, a decade of violence and chaos which the Communist Party calls its "most severe setback", blames on a handful of scapegoats, further discussion

1966 clarion call against "poi sonous weeds", with semi-nars and a flood of reminis-



Chen Kaige, of the Cultural **Andrew Higgins** 

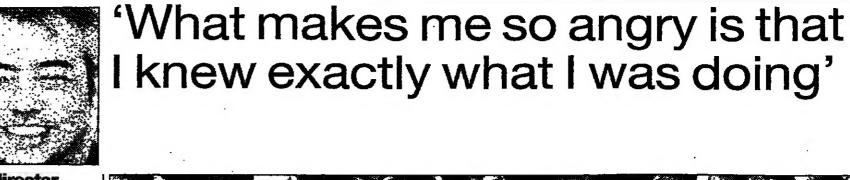
cooked and ate the corpses father — more vividly than any of the haunting images that have made him a cele-

That is because he was the teenager who jumped on to the stage in 1966, pushed his miliated submission, and

because it encapsulates the quotidian cruelty unleashed 30 years ago this week by Mao dong's Great Proletarian But it is rare to find anyone

and declares too painful for While foreign scholars and former red guards living abroad mark the anniversary of the May 16 Circular, Mao's

cences, China smothers the



above, shares his painful memories Revolution with

OMPARED to the stu-dent zealots in south-ern China who, in a grotesque ritual of Maoist devotion, murdered their headmasters and then the episode in a Beijing auditorium was a fairly modest outburst of teenage savagery. But Chen Kaige remembers the scene — a wild-eyed 14-year-old attacking his own

tricked me, didn't tell me the truth or forced me into it. I sister did not act the same way. She was asked to do the The scene shocks not be-



The frenzy of the masses . . . Red Guards of Mao Zedong's Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution cheer at a rally in Beijing. In poster form, their exhortations to violence were slapped on every convenient wall in many Chinese towns

whose films include the Yellow Earth and Farewell My Concubine. "They keep asking me: Why are you so seri-ous about what happened in "I was a very good student the past; why don't you put it behind you?"

everything. If we don't try to learn from that political movement, then sooner or

the motives for his and count- in a 1981 formal verdict en-Atal Bihari Vajpayee: BJP broadcast, saying: "We accept leader in celebratory mood your decision with humility." have changed," said Mr Chen, His father was also a film-

maker, a bourgeois profession which put the family on the wrong side of Mao's class

in the school and I did not want to lose face. I was angry that my father could not offer me a better family back-ground. This meant I was not qualified to become a red

later in the future we will see another very big cultural and social disaster."

The party gave its official version of what went wrong with the Cultural Revolution with the Cultural Revolution This tidy explanation dodges a plethora of messy moral and political questions.

> made a mistake. The Cultural Revolution did not happen simply because Mao stood in Tiananmen Square and waved his hand," Mr Chen said. "A political leader is created by the masses but everyone then asks the leader to be recrossible for every

"You cannot just say Mao

Partly in reaction to the party's stilted version, some

titled Resolution on Certain Questions of Party History. It blamed Mao's dotage and the machinations of his widow, Jiang Qing, and other mem-bers of the "Gang of Four".

to be responsible for every-thing that happens."

tion as a spasm of primitive own. less polemical contribu-democracy. Among them is Zheng Yi, a writer who fled to Life and Death in Shanghai, well. I felt as if he was still

the United States after the 1989 Tiananmen massacre, He says Mao's chaos contained tarianism. "This was the first

day-to-day horror of a country gone mad. The authorities have told him to drop it. It took him eight years to to oppose the dictatorship of for what he had done. Even the Communist Party." then, the past still stood be-tween them. "Whatever I did,

Nien Cheng's account of the | a little bit afraid of me." Mr Chen left the shooting of Temptress Moon, the film showing in Cannes, to sit by his father's deathbed. "He couldn't speak, but I had to say a few words to him.
'Whatever I have done and
will do is for you.' I saw the light in his eyes shine."

### Long live the **Britain to expel** Sudan official

ian Black Diplomatic Editor

RITAIN is to expel a diplomat from the Su-danese embassy in Lon-

sisted yesterday the expul-sion would go ahead despite the threat of tit-for-tat action in which Britain — with seven diplomats in Khartoum to Sudan's 14 in London -

The expulsion, plus travel restrictions on remaining dipalready taken similar action. in Addis Ababa last June them, but Western sources insist there is firm evidence

gradual approach in what could be a long campaign to Islamist regime in Khartoum and foreign fundamentalist groups which advocate violence against their own

governments.
If Sudan has not extradited

the three by mid-July, the UN Security Council will decide

what to do next, although ab-stention by Russia and China

and opposition from Indone-

sia, a non-permanent member of the council, means tougher action is unlikely.

Even Egypt, the main victim of Sudan's alleged activities, has said it will not go

along with a proposed arms embargo for fear it would ben-

efit southern rebels, lead to

secession and complicate

Egypt's interests in the head-

waters of the Nile.

don in line with new United force the extradition of three suspected terrorists and weaken links with Islamist

Foreign Office officials in-

state department's list of terrorism-sponsoring states.

— is not keen to become a new "pariah", along with Iran, Iraq and Libya.

The independent Khartoum newspaper al-Ra'y al-Akhar reported yesterday that the Palestinian Islamist group lomats, has to be carried out conform with the sanctions, which came into force last Friday. The United States has The aim is to force the isolated Sudanese regime to hand over to Ethiopia three men accused of trying to kill President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt Sudan says it cannot find

they are in the country.
The sanctions are part of a

leave the country "because we do not want Sudan to be the launching point for any attack on any neighbour".

Sudan and the International Monetary Fund have agreed on a formula to repay

Hamas, responsible for sui-cide bombings in Israel, was preparing to pull out of

Sudan. President Omar el-Bashir

said earlier this week he had

asked Muslim extremists to

the country's \$1.7 billion (£1.1 billion) debt. Sudan, one of Africa's poorest countries, was suspended by the IMF in 1993 for failing to repay its debts.

#### Serb leader sacks rival Radovan Karadzic, the Bos-

nian Serb leader, yesterday sacked a moderate rival favoured by the international community in a challenge to plans to sideline him and try him for suspected war crimes.
Rajko Kasagic, appointed
by Mr Karadzic as "prime
minister" of the self-described Serb state, has been increasingly sought by UN and Nato involved in implementing the Bosnian peace agreement. — AP.

Conscience plea Greek lawyers called yesterday for the abolition of legis-lation banning conscientious

there are signs that Sudan — already on the United States objection to armed military service, writes Helena Smith state department's list of

'Blast' crash Investigators into the Florida air crash are focusing on a

of old oxygen generators and finding parts of the wreckage that appear to be damaged by Tornado appeai

that the plane carried dozens

Bangladesh's caretaker government appealed yesterday for international assistance in

coping with the aftermath of the tornado two days ago, writes Arshad Mahmoud in Dhaka. Rescue workers found 35 more bodies, pushing the death toll to 477. 'Biggest' ruby

A ruby believed to be the world's largest, weighing 21,450 carats, has been found in Mogok, 435 miles north of the Burmese capital Rangoon, the state press reported. — AP.

Wages of sin

The city of Wuhan, central China, has issued a marriage registration rule fining men and women who live together before marriage up to 2,000 possible explosion aboard Value (£180), a local official luJet Flight 592 after learning said.— Reuter.

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Hill House Hammond

### The Guardian

Thursday May 16 1996 Edition Number 46,554 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER Fax No. 0171-837 4530 E-mail: letters@guardian.co.uk Website: http://www.guardian.co.uk

### Too powerful already

Above all else, change the Treasury's culture

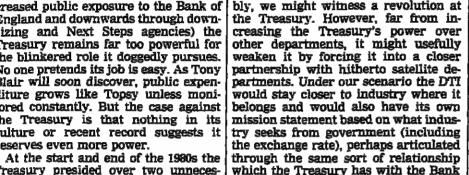
One of its earliest decisions will be even more powerful ministry with responsibility for economic and social renewal (as Gordon Brown has argued) or whether instead to beef up the Department of Trade and Industry as a counterweight to the Treasury (as John Prescott would like). This is one of the most important economic decisions a Blair administration is likely to make and it is vital it is not done to settle a power struggle between two of Labour's political heavyweights. If nothing else was learned from Labour's ill-fated experiment with the Department of Economic Affairs in the mid 1960s it was the folly of creating departments for people rather than the other way round.

Something must be done about the Treasury but not in the way that Gordon Brown envisages. Although it is already losing power on three levels (upwards to the European system of central banks, horizontally through increased public exposure to the Bank of England and downwards through downsizing and Next Steps agencies) the Treasury remains far too powerful for the blinkered role it doggedly pursues. No one pretends its job is easy. As Tony Blair will soon discover, public expenditure grows like Topsy unless monitored constantly. But the case against the Treasury is that nothing in its culture or recent record suggests it deserves even more power.

Treasury presided over two unneces-sarily steep recessions which needlessly wiped out large tracts of manu- crucial problem of how to rebalance facturing industry. During 1992's existing public spending totals to allow, infamous Black Wednesday it spent for example, more money for industry over £5 billion of the taxpayers' money | and less for defence. But if the Treasury in a single day in a foolish attempt to succeeds in having a culture transplant defend an indefensible exchange rate. goodness knows what else might follow.

WITHIN a year, unless the history of To many critics this period was an opinion polls has to be rewritten, illustration of what Professor Sydney Labour will form the next government. | Pollard called the Treasury's "contempt for production". This is not an organiwhether to turn the Treasury into an sation to be entrusted with an even bigger responsibility for investment, industry and macro-economic development. The Treasury would come out badly from the performance indicators it has imposed on local authorities and others. Nothing should be done until the Treasury improves its own track record.

How can it do this? Interestingly, if you strip Gordon Brown's proposals from the surrounding power politics, he has come up with a very good idea which could achieve the right end at far lower cost. He argues that civil servants in the Treasury ought to be given a "mission statement" compelling them to take long-term aims (like investment, the rate of growth and employment) into the decisions they take. If they had to justify their decisions against these criteria every year to a Commons select committee (armed with statistics from the Audit Commission) then, just possibly, we might witness a revolution at which the Treasury has with the Bank of England. None of this solves the





Letters to the Editor

### The downside of downsizing

claim (Life after down-sizing, May 14) that "downsizing is a good thing" and "leads to the creation of obs in different areas" shows how remote economic com-mentators can be from the people on the receiving end of the "hire-and-fire" culture which has dominated the business approach on both sides of the Atlantic for the

past 17 years. Mr Brummer seems ignorant of the authoritative data showing that our job-creation record is worse than that of many other European Union states, with employment growing by 1.7 per cent in France between 1980 and 1994. by 5.2 per cent in West Germany but by less than 0.1 per cent in the UK.

He appears to have accepted the myth that the UK has created more "flexible" jobs than our European coun-terparts. In fact the actual growth in such employment has been about the 4 per cent has been about the 4 per cent average for the EU as a whole. Compared, for example, to cessful in bringing overall unabout 10 per cent in France. error, and when we can years ... have been in indus-

readily see the damage that error has done to the social fabric of both the UK and the US, it is depressing to see that Mr Brummer has meekly swallowed this discredited piece of New Right economic dogma. In fact we need a Government committed to tackling the job insecurity that has become a fact of life working population is eco. Notts NG18 1QH.

In therapy

ally been doing.

T is amusing to see Antidote depicted as an organisation urging politicians to explore

their emotions and to recon-

cile their differences (Psycho-

babble in the corridors of

power, May 15). However, such an account bears no

relation to what we have actu-

Antidote draws together

people from every sort of pro-fessional, academic and com-

mercial background. All of

towards reflective approache

out with some of his followers

YOUR paper is usually ac-curate. But it was not so

in saying that I dined with O

J Simpson and Max Clifford

Max Clifford was not there.

YES it hurt. Yes it worked? When did the Tories hire

Jean Baudrillard as their ad-

N the 1950s I was Peter Man-

delson's baby-sitter. I feel

that I may be needed again soon. Should I rethink my

Will you make that known.

Andrew Samuels.

Frederick Mulder

99 Shirland Road,

London W9 2EL

Michael Winner.

6-8 Sackville Street,

Edward Greening.

25 Garden Street,

holiday plans?

Philip Cohen.

London W12 9NL

7 Rylett Road.

London E1.

London W1X 1DD.

man?

Susie Orbach.

James Park.

Phil Goss.

Antidote.

pursued by the Tories. Michael Meacher. Shadow Secretary of State for Employment. House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA.

HE article says: "NatWest Bank announces it will cut 15,000 jobs by the end of the century." This is not in fact the case. Whilst NatWest has shared with its retail her branch of the century." banking staff plans to build a new retail bank, at no point have we made any announce ment in relation to projected numbers of job loss retail bank and we have no plans to do so. Paul Lockstone Head of public relations, NatWest.

Level 12, Drapers Gardens, 12 Throgmorton Avenue, London EC2N 2DL.

ALEX Brummer claims that downsizing econo-mies have "increased their employment down", and, in At a time when the guru of the case of the USA, that "68 downsizing" Stephen Roach per cent of all the new jobs has accepted that he was in created over the past two tries that pay above-average

wages". None of this seems to me to deal adequately with that for- still less for antiquated nomer Guardian journalist Will tions about keeping people Hutton's evidence of stagnant put during the Thatcher years, of a 30-30-40 society in | 5 St John Street. which 60 per cent of the adult

BRUMMER'S | under the economic policies | nomically inactive, or listed as unemployed, or on government "training" schemes, or marginalised or insecure within the labour market.

Hutton has recently pointed out that "virtually all the extra hours worked during the recovery have fallen to part-time workers". This sug-gests that UK experience is quite contrary to that apparently being found in the

J Wilfred Attenborough. 6 Spital Street, Lincoln LN1 3EG.

ALEX BRUMMER is right when he suggests that downsizing leads to even greater efficiencies in an ever changing global marketplace. Indeed, what right have any of us to expect to remain in the same job for the length of our working lives? Skills that are useful in one

generation can become quickly obsolete as social and economic changes wreak havoc amongst established workforces for whom office and shop-floor practices are deemed sacrosanct.

If any nation or trading group is to remain truly comboth at he abroad, then there can be no room for restrictive measures aimed at protecting indigenous industries or services, occupied in unproductive tasks at public expense. Bill Jackson.

Mansfield.

#### The whole shooting match

IT IS hard to see the reasoning behind Tony Blair's commitment to what is in effect a total ban on pistol-shooting (Letters, May 15). In the UK, shooting in its various forms has about one million participants. Of those, over a hundred thousand hold certificates for ridles or niscertificates for rifles or pistols; the rest hold certificates for shotguns. With one in 50 of the population holding a licence, this cannot be seen as a minority sport, or the pre-serve of a maladjusted few. It is hard to imagine that a single person in this country single person in this country does not have a colleague, friend or relative who shoots. Arbitrarily to obliterate part of the sport in the hope that this might deny another maniec access to guns would be like excluding all Irish people from the mainland simply because they might commit an act of terrorism. commit an act of terrorism. Alex Kuiper. Poole, Dorset.

W Buresh's letter (May 15)
Lis the kind that is to be expected from the progum lobby, which has always refuse to acknowledge the essential and easy lethality of their fetich objects gun to them is neither more nor less deadly than "a bread-

knife or a seven iron". Handguns were first and foremost designed to kill people. They make the act of nurder very quick and simple while being easy to conceal and carry. Knives, golf clubs or even rifles don't combine all the aspects that make handguns the evil little

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7 Dec. 180

items they are. If handguns were taken out of circulation we would not stop murder, but murderers would find it much harder to kill without a gun. If Thomas Hamilton had been armed only with a knife, javelin, or a bow. Dunblane might still have happened, but far fewer children would have died. Bruno Nicoletti. Dartmouth Park Road

London NW5. AS A current holder of both firearms and shotgun cartificates, I can assure Jack Straw that we already have logbooks — incorporated

within our certificates. The log records the numbers and types of firearms held, their calibres and their serial numbers, together with the quantities of Part 1 Firearms ammunition which the certificate-holder is authorised to hold. Peter Gavagan.

38 Horseshoe Lane, Bromley Cross, Bolton BL7 9RR.

### Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Southampton. Southampton SO17 1BJ.

On etiquette

by Alex Brummer's

article are a complete misrepresentation of many of the

facts which have emerged or

are emerging from "corporate downsizing". Unemployment statistics, for one, are not the most reliable of indicators; witness the 33 "adjustments" within the UK. Second, the

near-religious rhetoric sur-

rounding proclamations of

downsizing as a means to in-crease productivity has to be

viewed against a growing background of job insecurity, "macho management",

casualisation of white-collar work, and "process-oriented skill empowerment" (intensi-

fication) on the back of a de-

displayed as the feel-bad fac-tor. This is something that

the Conservatives are now

discovering via the collapse of the middle-class vote — and

on the back of their employ-

Tare begining to realise

that accumulative sacking

means the company has

sacked their customers' cus-

tomers. The only economies

with a long-term future are

those which include their cus-

University of Warwick.

Coventry CV3 3AL.

omers' customers.

(Prof) Colin Pritchard.

ment reforms.

Mark Oley.

regulated labour market. Such working practices show an increase of 20 per cent since 1992 and are visibly

NATURALLY we common people would never dream of serving a guest food designed to embarrass him. I can only speculate on how satisfied the Queen feels after her act of calculated discourtesy to a guest who represent a friendly and civilised nation. Presumably M and Mme Chirac behaved like polite guests and refrained from banging the table and walk-

I can only regret that no French president seems to have had the idea of serving the Queen horse meat during her many visits to France. Betty Doré. 47 Boulevard de la Marne, 94210 La Varenne, Saint Hilaire, France.

Please include a full postal

address and a telephone number. We may edit letters: shorter ones are preferred.

#### **A Country Diary**

ACHVANERAN: My two sat on eggs in a large nest box favourite birds in the garden on an alder tree next to the favourite birds in the garden at present are a complete contrast as far as the colour of their plumage is concerned as they are house sparrows and mandarin ducks. I can remember when house spar-rows were so common that you could find colonies of them in hedges with the nests so rough and ready they looked as though someone had thrown the material into the hedge. Now in the Highlands they have decreased in numbers, so I am very attracted to the two pairs that nest in the garden. At first I thought that both pairs had taken over artificial house martin boxes but I should have to thread their way have believed the makers in through groups of ducks and their claim to be sparrow proof. When the boxes were erected, a small piece of plank had to be nailed to the eaves first to give a flat surface for the boxes. The sparrows are occupying the gap between this plank and the leaves. In contrast the mandarins came back several weeks ago and one female almost certainly

smaller pond. It is a very strange sight indeed when the female flies into the nest box as there is a last minute struggle to get in and she often spends a long time peering out of the box looking rather ridiculous. The male sits for long periods under the tree as if guarding the site. At least two other pairs of mandarins come into the garden and all of them get to the geese and duck food in a strange way. In each case they swim to the edge of the pond and then walk up the paddock about 60 yards to the seed containers. They often geese and they are very wary of the latter who peck them if they get too close. Male man-darins must be one of the most attractive of birds in Britain although the purists tell me I should discourage them as they may take over

nest boxes designed for native birds such a goldeneye. RAY COLLIER

#### What was it all about, Mao?

30 years on, the Cultural Revolution is still a bit of a puzzle

TO REBEL is justified, said Chairman | outside as well as within China Mao, but what were they rebelling about? On the 30th anniversary of the start of the Great Proletarian Cultural answer. Without Mao it would certainly never have happened: many Chinese wish he had died, the unchallenged hero of the revolution, long before. Mao used the Red Guards to settle accounts with senior colleagues who had criticised his Great Leap Forward - and had been proved right when millions starved. The political vacuum was then filled by ultra-leftists and opportunists the Gang of Four and their followers. Yet Mao's objective could have been achieved more expeditiously through an old-fashioned party purge. Was not the Cultural Revolution, however warped in form and disastrous in result, about something else as well?

Today's anniversary is dated by reference to the "May 16 Directive" with which Mao launched his campaign against opponents in Beijing's Communist Party hierarchy. Yet there was also a "May 7 Directive" - now forgotten whose much broader target was the whole of society. Workers should become soldiers, said Mao, peasants should study politics, students should learn to be farmers, and the educational system should be transformed shorter terms and no exams! Today it to build new all-round socialist man positively radical appeal - to many

It is instructive to turn back to the pages of The Guardian in summer 1966 to see how this paper reacted at the Revolution, it is still a hard question to | time. The late Victor Zorza, in his calm analytical style, noted that there was "political method to Mao's madness". Recalling Stalin's use of the personality cult to silence opposition, he concluded that Mao too was seeking to purge his own closest colleagues. A Guardian leader, written as the movement began. focused instead on the problems faced by China as a developing country. It suggested that Mao was attempting to solve these by a "vast experiment" in social engineering. Another leader, written as the Red Guard violence spread, called it an act of madness and self-destruction — but added that much worse was happening in Indonesia where thousands of alleged communists were being slaughtered, and with tacit Western approval.

These complicated themes do not become easier with hindsight. Efforts in China during the 1980s to look more generally at China's political culture and at popular attitudes were abandoned after the events of June 1989. If more searching questions were allowed about the "ten years of madness", they might also be asked about the ten hours of massacre. Western opinion has moved on too: Mao's arguments about may to many seem a naive invocation the "socialist transition" are less interesting that his private life. Yes, the and woman. At the time it had a more | Cultural Revolution was a disaster, but we are still not completely sure why.

#### Without being chauvinistic . . .

Wouldn't English boeuf by any other name taste as fair?

PRESIDENT CHIRAC could be forgiven | ously as the French, and which is home, so absurd and plain rude has been the British preoccupation with forcing the French leader to eat British beef during his visit here this week. Is this really what British foreign policy has sunk to? Has too much beef made us quite mad? And is this column alone in finding the obsessive desire to embarrass a guest, a process shamelessly encouraged by Whitehall, literally

distasteful? Yet if the president takes offence at the attempt to stuff British beef down his throat, he can at least draw other consolations from his visits to the highest tables in the land. French wines have a hegemony at such dinners and no one, as far as we are aware, has tried to compel M Chirac to drink any of our increasingly attractive English wines during his visit. Meanwhile, for a vegetables? Nothing at all. Yum yum. nation which takes its culture as seri-

for deciding to take the first Eurostar | periodically assailed by alarm that the language of Molière is being violated by that of Mickey Mouse, there must also be relief at being presented with a recognisably British menu.

may have been on the plate, but the menu at lunch spoke only of filet de boeuf aux nouilles provençales. British? At Tuesday evening's state banquet at Buckingham Palace the president was served consommé Céléstine, followed by roulade de sole à la mousse de homard. then carré d'agneau aux légumes de printemps, rounded off by pêches Toscanes. We are the last to wish to include British cultural chauvinism, but is it not about time that French ceased to be the language of food just as it ceased to be the language of diplomacy? What is wrong with rack of lamb with spring

British? Roast beef of Olde England Or even, this once, bon appétit.



#### Trainspotter's guide to Asia

them recognise the contribu-YOUR leader on "the ulti-mate great rail journey" (May 14) omitted to mention tion that psychotherapeutic perspectives can make in understanding how political decisions impact upon the way people feel, and how those feelings feed back into decision-making. We are not offering therapy one or two inconveniences of a journey all the way from Istambul to Saigon: the different rail gauges. The Iran/Turkes-tan border requires a change to anyone. We aim to move the debate on issues as of wheelsets from 1435mm to 1524mm, which have to be

diverse as the economy, educhanged back again to cation and the environment 1435mm at the Chinese border. To proceed beyond Hanoi that address people's deeper needs. The fact that Freud fell one would need to change again to metre gauge, but one would then be on the Trans Wallasey.
Asia (proposed) railway route Merseyside L45 8JW. is not really evidence that this cannot be done.

difficulties are resolved, would allow one to proceed beyond Saigon to Cambodia and across Thailand. Of course such a trip would be impractical for the writer, as the claustrophobic and unreliable Northern Line connection between Euston and Waterloo renders it impossi ble to schedule a journey with any degree of certainty. Alisdair McNicol.

which, when various political

30 Stanley Avenue,

#### The Governor: a real-life drama

were given parliamentary privilege to defend the innocent . . . every person living in Her Majesty's domain has the right to put their case, rich or poor, elected or unelected." What a load of codswallop.

On January 10, 1995, I was removed from my post as governor of Parkhurst Prison following the escape and recapture of three high-security prisoners. The Home Secretary acted on a hurriedly prepared interim report by the then head of security, Richard Tilt, and announce in the House that John Marriott was to be removed from his post that day and would not run another prison until after the several inquiries

had been completed.

SIMON HOGGART (Major in the dock for blame-rigging. May 10) quotes John any representation during the Gummer in the House Tilt inquiry, yet this was following the publication of John Magill's report into Westminster Council: "We career in Her Majesty's Prison Service in order to save his own skin. I was given only five minutes' notice of his statement.

From the time of the escape, the Home Office has refused to allow me to make public comment "since it would involve (me) taking part in discussions of matters of both current and political controversy". All this seems to be in sharp contrast to Gummer's statement and the Government's response to John Magill's five-volume report on the activities of Lady Porter and her Conservative colleagues. This is but one more example of this Government's duplicity and lack of integrity.

John Marriott. I had been afforded one in- Address supplied.

#### Diary

#### Matthew Norman

ITH the sad retirement of Lord
Taylor, a vacancy arises in the post of Lord Chief Justice. However, the Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay, is so busy with his divorce bill that he has no time to make a selection time to make a selection. And so the onerous task of choosing the new Lord Chief Justice falls instead to Steptoe, the West Highland Steptoe, the West Highland terrier. Over the coming weeks, the Diary will watch all the major candidates on the gallops (in court, to be pedantic) and will publish form guides, with special attention paid to their Lordships' made of howing. A ships' mode of bowing. A book will be formed, and only then will the dog deploy his usual chickenselecting method to pick the new Lord Chief Justice. We will begin tomorrow with Lord Bingham.

LSO vacant is the editor's chair at the Catholic Herald, and our campaign to install sane and rational Paul Johnson gathers pace. The first of what we hope will be many messages of support from prominent Catholics comes from Clare Short. She believes it's a splendid idea. "Let's get rid of all these awful liberals, bring in a solid rightwinger, and put some backbone back into the institution," said Ms Short. "Vote for Paul Johnson. Yes. I can see it now." Regretfully, doubts have been expressed by writers Piers Paul Read and the former Goodie William Oddie, and it cannot be denied that a question mark hangs over Paul's editorial abilities and judgment. Clearly, then, it won't be easy get-ting him in, and so I have therefore recruited to the campaign team the PR genius Max Clifford. Max has been tied up this week with another client (OJ Simpson) but he will be here tomorrow with some expert advice.

HE Diary learns that Graham Farrant, 35, will not, after all, become Britain's youngest council chief executive. His appointment to the position at Norfolk County Council the council statement says, to "personal circumstances". By pure coincidence, it has emerged that a Graham Farrant was the Westminster Council housing officer responsible for asbestos management at the time when homeless famllies were moved into asbes tos-riddled tower blocks. We hope his personal cirwish him all he deserves from his career.

HICH "very close ally" of America's borrowed the famous bird gun — a cannon that fires dead chickens at aircraft windshields to test their strength? The Penta-gon's Lt Gen Wes Clark refused to name it when he made a speech describing how the ally used the gun on a high-speed train, and was amazed when the chicken not only shattered the windshield, "but also broke the engineer's chair and caused severe damage to the front cabin". Hugely impressed, the ally asked in awe what sort of armoured glass the Americans had invented to resist such a force. The British (who else?) were told that there was no need for armoured glass. But it was important to thaw the chickens first.

AUCINESS has been noted in New Labour.

Jarrow MP Don Dixon is retiring as the party's deputy chief whip, and last night the party's four women whips Bridgit Pren-tice, Ann Coffey, Janet An-derson and Jane Kennedy said farewell with a party. Their gift to Mr Dixon. meanwhile, was a House of Commons tea towel with, embroidered upon it, sev-eral red roses and the words Whipping men is what we're best at". Ooooh matron indeed, and no

N the Daily Express, Peter Hitchens writes with typical vigour about the sad failure of poli-ticians to face up to the facts —or "politicians in denial", as the headline puts it. It seems be has had an attack of self-parodic irony: this same Peter, you will recall, continued to deny his student beard long after You the Jury had confirmed its existence by a huge majority.



### Real hope for the powerless young

### Commentary

#### Hugo Young

F you need a gutsy reason why a change of government is essential, it was on display yesterday when the Labour Party put itself behind The Lost Generation. This is not because Labour's plans for jobless young people have any stunning novelty, still less because they're sure to work. They run as great a risk of failure as the Tory remedies they will replace. But they put the energy of a new-born politics to the service of a vision that is unclouded by failure. New men will do old things with new belief. As a manifesto for government, this is where it's at. ernment, this is where it's at. Realism and conviction have become the acceptable substitutes for originality.

The issue inelegantly called youth unemployment is a par-adigm for numerous govern-ing problems. It is a many-tentacled evil. It grows largely out of circumstance not policy, accident not in-

government has not ignored. Thatcherism. Labour's ap-lt continues to get worse not better. It attracts the concern of every country in the world. Thatcherism. Labour's ap-different. There aren't that many different methods anyof every country in the world.

Its resolution is not foresee able. Welcome to the global economy of the 21st century.

Nobody can say the Tories haven't tried. A huge effort has gone into making young people fitter for the world of work. A range of different VQs, vocationally qualifying, has come and gone and come again. Training and Enteragain. Training and Enteragain. Training and Enter-prise Councils are supposed to be all about what they say, with special reference to the young. The Youth Training Scheme costs £550m a year, and not even the most rabid

trapeze artist of the right is saying that this kind of social safety-net against a skill-less and alienated under-class should be done away with. The picture after 17 years, however, is shameful. One in six young people, in some places one in two, is unem-ployed. One in three fails to attain Level 2 of the NVQ, the base line of foundation learning. Fewer than half those who start Youth Training complete the course. School truancy rates are frightening, and the crime levels associated with all this non-performance make more abject non-

sense than ever of the

Conservative claim that

different. There aren't that many different methods anywhere to be found. The YTS will be replaced by another package with a different name, redoubling the effort to make its clients complete the course. There will be a different mix of carrots and sticks to raise the levels of qualification and basic skills. Perhaps the most arresting shift will be to so-called individual learning accounts in theory. learning accounts, in theory empowering individuals to make their own training choices rather than being pushed around by bureaucrais.

But a lot of this is specula-tive too. Its actual effect, like the actual effect the Tories have sought, depends on em-ployers doing the right thing. on young people taking their prospects seriously, on volun-tary organisations gearing up, above all on employment expanding. If a Labour gov-ernment is to make a differ-ence, expectations must change, habits have to alter, an immense complexity of social and economic patterns needs to be re-arranged. Such work is close to the heart of

Labour brings to it only one

Many New Labour remedies could as easily be Tory Initia-tives. There's no reason, ex-cept sheer anomie, why beneoth sites remain in place which deter or penalise young people doing voluntary work or taking part-time courses. But that underlines the main thing Labour has to offer, the energy and self-belief of politicians whose turn has come. Anyone acquainted with the history of unemployment since 1979 understands how improbable it is that any government will swiftly transform it. But anyone who listened to the Labour leadership yesterday was in the presence of people whom age has not withered, nor custom staled their infinite capacity to address the issue with passion and commitment.

There is in other words are

There is, in other words, an invigoration of promise. This is what Labour mostly has to offer, and it is not a small donation. It's presided over by Gordon Brown, the Shadow

So Labour hasn't lost its capacity for astonishment.

After 17 years, we call it political renewal

Chancellor. It therefore illuminates some of the rows he's supposed to be engulfed in, playing the Iron Chancellor against sundry colleagues who see the Brown Treasury

what government exists to do.

as the enemy of "larger ecoyet is now its most Sisyphean
iask.

as the enemy of "larger economic and social renewal"
(John Prescott, May 14). The down-grading of the

who have had all the

Undermining Treasury power is an irrelevance and distraction, rendered no more pertinent for being, on this occasion, a proxy for the battle of the egos at the top of the shadow cabinet.

Whatever the government, and whichever place John Prescott holds in the Blair government, the Treasury is and always will be a force to reckon with in Whitehall.
Proposing that its "culture"
should be changed is an indulgence of opposition fantasy, another way of pretending that the sums do not need to add up.
What matters about the

Treasury is who runs it, and what he wants to do. That Gordon Brown stands behind the pledge to give youth employment the highest priority, backed by a dribble of the extra money he guards like a puritan tight-wad, is an encouraging sign that Labour means business. It's certainly better than a sterile argument about whether Brown has too

much power.

His finest power is the power to stand against cynicism. Listening to him, you know he's seared by the figure of 600,000 young unemployed, and what this means in human waste and social not policy, accident not inthere's no connection betent. It is something government cannot ignore. It is
something the Conservative of gibberish in the lexicon of that it can and must be done.

Treasury has been a Labour fracture. So Labour hasn't lost its capacity for astonishment cannot ignore. It is
something the Conservative of gibberish in the lexicon of that it can and must be done.

# Wilson government met by creating a Department of Economic Affairs under George Brown, responsible for planning and the supply side, intended to be the enemy and ultimately the master of the Treasury. The experiment was a failure. Power politics ensured that its premise was never put to the test. Within six months, Richard Crossman's Diaries note, planning had been adroitly retained by the Treasury and "it is the economists and officials there who have had all the



Jon Snow

sat with President Chirac in his office in the Elysée Palace, three hours and 20 minutes from Waterloo station. As he talked of his days at Rochester in a student exchange, a nanny pushed his new grandchild through the dappled shadows on the lawn below.

Mr Chirae's royal arrival at Waterloo by Eurostar the next day, amid the simple modernity of Grimshaw's airy 21st-century terminal, hid the oft-repeated tale of the last ignominious 70 miles from Folkestone. The Bosnian wastes of Bromley's railway sidings remained unseen by television crews and diplomatically unremarked upon by Mr Chirac.

Next month he goes to Lille to inaugurate the latest sec-tion of France's high-speed train endeavour. The great sweep of new track will now link the country's industrial north-east with its more ex-otic south-west. Lille to Bor-deaux in under four hours try driving that in less. Work is in hand for the next generation of rolling stock that will lift today's 187 mph to well over 200 mph.

Two weeks ago I headed for our own industrial north-east by train. We crawled the 200 miles in two hours and 20 minutes in relatively new electrified rolling stock. The way back involved the rattle of old diesel; the carriages were filthy and the train was 17 minutes lets. A lettlet in 17 minutes late. A leaflet in the privatised bar told me of great future plans — the gradual refurbishment of the nine remaining "diesel sets".

And there you have it. high-speed train network. Britain prepares to renew the upholstery on 25-year-old car-riages. Where's the strategy?

get worse. But then no one tiable. They are touch-stones will let the train take the of the central part that "egastrain so long as there is a lite and liberte" play in the fighting chance that the car will get there more quickly. In the past two months I have made three trips to Liverpool on public transport. On both the first two occasions the cabbed it and arrived on time.

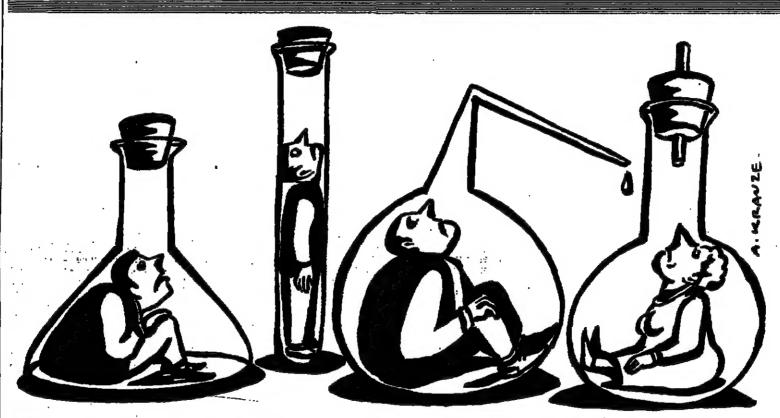
of 5.2 per cent of GDP (1995); France may miss its Maas-tricht criteria; France is still struggling in the pre-priva-tised dog days of big govern-ment. But France is planning for the long term. Britain rums a debt to the tune of 6.0 per cent of GDP (1995); Brit-ain could hit its Maastricht criteria; Britain is at the cutting edge of privatisation; Britain is getting big govern-ment out of our lives. But big spending is still in our lives, and nearly all of it about today and very little of it about tomorrow. Even the Newbury bypass no longer pretends to be more than a 10-year solution. And whilst it is being built will the train of being built, will the train al-ternative improve? No one even begins to believe it will. Strategic planning for tomorrow is about govern-ment. No taxpayer wants today's earnings spent on

today's earnings spent on someone else's tomorrow. No individual says: "Take my car, take its bit of road and invest it in a railway for all." It is precisely because of our natural selfishness and greed that we employ, if not big government, certainly government, to make big deci-sions on our behalf. And in the great age of choice, we need the opportunity to choose to travel faster from city to city by rail than by any other means. But in all this, our attitude to transport is merely a metaphor for so much else that is required for our tomorrows. For transport infrastructure you can just as easily read educational infrastructure — the strategic de-cision to provide a high-speed network of schooling for tomorrow's children. No party has identified the scale of investment required over

President Chirac has given the British an opportunity to see what remarkably similar nations we are in size, in economic performance and even in pageantry. Whilst France expands the But whilst British politics is high-speed train network, about short-term gain and long-term savings, France basks in the consistent thread of strategy — the high-speed rail network, and high-grade No one needs to sit in city-centre or ring-road grid-lock educational system for all to understand that it will all from 3 to 18, are non-negocountry's constitution.

Chirac will not stand on platform three at Lille railway station next month and cry "what a waste" when he opens the last section of track train was more than 30 min- that Mitterrand sanctioned. utes late in each direction. On Instead, he will confirm the the last occasion, having to next phase of the endeavour. meet a deadline, I took the plane to Manchester and then time you travel from Waterloo to Paris, Lille, or Bor-This is not a debate about who owns the railways. It is a debate we do not conduct, about strategic planning.

France runs a debt to the tune year-old upholstery.



### Bombshells in the lab

In the wake of the contaminated centrifuge Russell Stockdale calls for a complete overhaul of the forensic service, while below, **Tim Radford** warns us of the limits of science

science laboratory of that centrifuge contaminated with 30 microspanking new one costs around £3,000) could ever be introduced into a laboratory set aside for handling mind bogglingly tiny amounts of explosives material, let alone be allowed to function there for

allowed to nunction there for years without being checked.
But the conferring of Agency status on government forensic-science establishments has brought the principles of scientific precisions. ments has brought its butter, ac-curacy and correctness into head-on conflict with the mar-ket forces with which they were meant to harmonise. Never mean to narmonise.
Never mind the professional
judgment and adherence to
good practice, look at the cost.
The Home Affairs Committee in 1989 recognised the Home Office Forensic Science Service (FSS) to be under-staffed and under-resourced. So the Government solved the problem by semi-privatising it, and reducing its backlog (sorry, "forward-load") of cases by allowing the police to take the work elsewhere. Some forces did — and got their fingers burned in the process because Government stoutly refused to admit to the

HE discovery in the do. The only bench-mark available to the police as to the sort of services they were buying was the price. Meanwhile, back in the FSS,

of that centrifuge contaminated with 30 micrograms of a substance found in Semtex — more than enough to produce false positives in a million explosives trace tests on which the criminal courts have been taught to rely—raises wider, deeper issues than Professor Brian Caddy's enquiries are likely to address. It beggars belief that what seems to have been a second-hand machine (a brand spanking new one costs base is run by temps.
But the FSS has grown since But the FSS has grown since the bad old days before Agency. Yes; there are now English judicial procedure,

ing gurus and management spin-doctors than forensic scientists. That must be a good sign, since none of the former were to blame for the celebrated miscarriages of justice, the like of which it seems we could see all over again.

As for the defence teams in the criminal trial process, they are now worse off than ever. Increasingly starved of

funds to pay for essential, competent and independent advice, they would be ill-ad vised to consume any of the prosecution's scientific evi-dence on trust; as the aston-ishing revelations from the DRA bear witness, there's no telling where it has been. The Royal Commission on Criminal Justice proposed a new, single forensic-science organisation to serve the needs of the prosecution and defence alike, the investiga-tors needs having been conveniently lost somewhere on the

more administrators, market | which is trial by adversity in | ton Committee highlighted, ing gurus and management | which two sides face each | that the defence have the right other in a combative pavane. Like it or not, it is difficult to see that a monolith such as Lord Runciman proposed could be snything other than a recipe for discontent.

It is a fundamental misconception that forensic science inevitably provides an espe-cially pure and objective form of evidence, and that it gives universally accepted, clear-cut answers which leave no scope for debate. As expert witnesses, forensic actentists oc-cupy a special position in court, being permitted, and indeed expected, to give evi-dence of opinion and fact. The danger is that the court as perhaps the scientist him-self, may be unclear as to which is which, his evidence being accepted as infallible.
Presented with the same sets
of data, forensic scientists can
and do disagree over their interpretation. It is therefore essential, if scientific evidence is to be properly weighed and

of routine access to properly qualified forensic-science help and that they are provided with sufficient funds.

The profession needs a bedrock of rigorous professional accreditation of individual practitioners, and regulation ly-constituted governing body. It also needs adequate funds to perform the job, and re-direc-tion back towards fundamental reliability and excellence. Good science in clean lab-oratories with clean equipment operated by experienced and dedicated personnel doesn't come chean. But it's arguably cheaper and a good deal more use than room-loads of administrators and papermountain builders who would have one believe that it does.

Russell Stockdale, formerly a principal scientist in the Home Office Forensic Science Service is a partner at Forensic Access, an independent forensic-

### The certainty of uncertainty

RTHUR C Clarke once formulated a simple out to prove them wrong.

Iaw: that if a distinguished and elderly scientist pronounced something impossible, then it was itself to be contaminated in the sample, then you can't see the contaminants either. Laboratory practice has, for decades, concentrated on careful handling. But every lab has its own quite likely to happen quite likely to happen tomorrow. The only people never suprised by this law are scientists themselves, who live daily with the probability that they have it wrong. Those who don't know about science think that scientists are the ones with all the onswers Scien.

storily refused to admit to the need for personal accreditation and robust regulation of the profession. Any Tom, Dick or Harry can purport to be a forensic scientist, and many at least — they would pre- lent story. If you can't see from words like "certain"

with Semtex was a lesson for juries, lawyers, the pub-lic and the Home Office, but it wasn't a lesson for scientists. They knew about the dangers of contamination anyway. They keep being reminded of them all the time. In the days before that scientists are the ones with all the answers. Scientists themselves don't see it that way: sometimes all they can see is all the unanswered questions.

Accordingly scientific findings — even the fairly conclusive ones — tend to arrive dripping with cautionary caveats. For most pably evidence. Smears of evidence too small to see

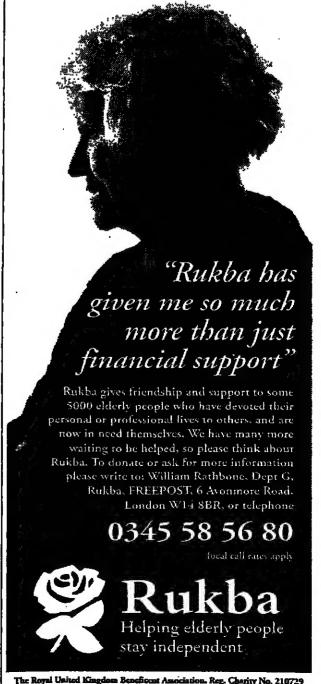
mythology of mishap.

Then there is a second problem. Most scientific evidence is about probability. It is about the probability that the bottle of vodka was distilled in Manning-tree rather than Moscow. It is about the *likelihood* of some other person in the same area having the same DNA fingerprint, about the likelihood of the signature on a cheque being made by someone lefthanded who learned to write in Ghana, or Ireland, about the likeli-hood of a body being con-

or "impossible". Many of those called to act as expert witnesses would be horri-fied if their evidence alone pushed the verdict to guilty: many of them like the idea instead of providing evidence that at least eliminates the innocent. Ideally, they'd like to be cautious and diffident

But — as they discover when they step into court, diffidence is a dangerous quality. Juries like straight answers and barristers fas-ten on equivocation like tigers on a tethered goat. So scientist-witnesses have to discover a way of pronouncing their opinions firmly. But they know they may be wrong. They have before them, all the time, terrible lessons from the past, such as the Astronomer-Royal who, when asked, opined that the idea of space travel was "bunk" — a year before Sputnik 1.

Tim Radford is the Guardian's



John McArthur

### Malaria without the sting

of a superbly de-signed pocket microscope, intended pri-marily for field use in remote regions yet having an optical performance comparable with that of much larger bench research microscopes. Dr John McArthur — who has died aged 94 — had a life rich in adventure, of discovery in the control of malaria, of invention and of disappointment. His gentle, sympa thetic yet penetrating ap-proach to life was sometimes concealed behind a bristling, almost swashbuckling.

appearance.

For over haif a century he remained dedicated to the continuing development of his pocket microscope which. barely larger than one of the flat 50 cigarette tins common in the 1930s, was the first major advance in microscope design for a century.

When in 1933 he revealed a prototype and described the design in a lecture to the then famous Quekett Microscopical Club at the Natural History Museum, London, it created something of a sensation. In the following year he wrote a definitive technical article explaining the advantages of the design, which was published in the Journal of the Royal Microscopical Society (JRMS, 1934, il, 54, 182-5).

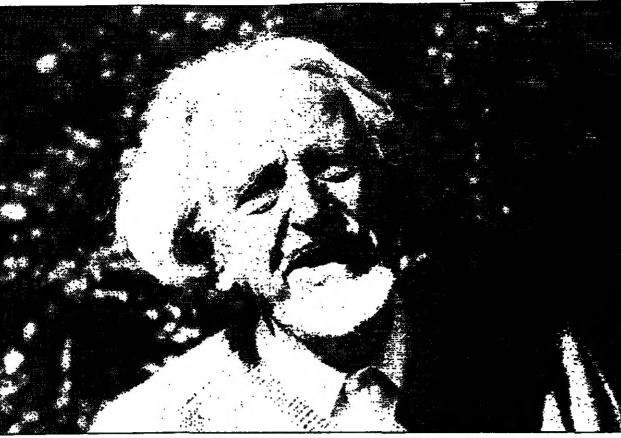
John McArthur's belief was that the microscope had a major role to play through use by paramedic teams dealing with tropical diseases in remote and difficult regions. He ensured that it embraced all the techniques essential to diagnosis and field investigation of malaria and other endemic parasitic diseases. As recently as the mid 1980s, to match diagnostic advances

vention in the 1930s ultraviolet light, which requires special illumination and is potentially dangerous in unskilled hands, but on blue light filtered from normal sunlight.
One of his microscopes was

carried across Antarctica by Sir Vivian Fuchs on the Com-monwealth expedition in 1957 because, among other advan-tages, the design resists the effects of extreme temperatures and condensation far better than conventional instruments. Another was carried on an Everest expedition. In the 1970s, at the request of the Open University, a simplified plastic version of the McArthur microscope was produced in large numbers for biology students. Yet, to McArthur's disappointment, the fully developed version never achieved its potential in field tropical medicine, nor the popularity it deserved on the grounds of its rigidity. simplicity and many optical advantag

John McArthur came into tropical medicine and microscopy through tempestuous but inventive opportunity. His Glasgow parents moved to London when he was only a

year old. He left school with dreams of becoming a medical mis-sionary and changing the world and went up to University College, London in the 1920s to study medicine. While still a student he was overtaken by distractions: the abject poverty of many pa-tients; the notion of a robust pocket microscope as a routine instrument to enhance the scope of the GP's "black bag", and a love affair with Kitty Carey, who was eventually to become his first wife and of whom his parents did not approve.



Miracle in miniature . . . McArthur's pocket microscope opened new possibilities in fighting disease

disgrace and in the manner of | The disease was rife and conthe time, was despatched by trol measures had proved to his father to South America to recover. After some months in the Brazilian jungle around the Amazon. where he lived off the land the importance of tropical medicine and of his pocket microscope were heightened, he returned to London, mar-

be largely ineffective. McArthur's painstaking field investigations, which paralleled those of the great malariologist Sir Ronald Ross and were locally very important, revealed that the authorities were targeting the wrong vector mosquito. With

Kitty acting as his assistant.

He showed that mosquito numbers could be reduced by letting sunlight into stream breeding sites

Although no longer eager to become a missionary, he was determined that his medicine should be used to help remote and disadvantaged communities. Briefly medical officer to a mining company in Sierra Leone, where he and his wife were horrified by the treat ment meted out to the black workforce (McArthur always believed that he was dismissed by the company because he befriended some of the workers), he was sent in

ried Kitty, the girl he loved. he demonstrated that the cul-and qualified with prit was not the abundant An-distinction. obtains maculatus but the much less common and shade-loving Anopheles leucosphyrus. He went on to show that their numbers could be dramatically reduced by letting sunlight into stream breeding sites near villages

Before he had written up his full report. Borneo was invaded by the Japanese. On birth to their first son. Malcolm. For three years the fam-ily were, either together or most of McArthur's manuscripts and took the research station equipment — includmicroscope which he had al-ways carried. Although released briefly and allowed to return to the research station to continue with medicine, the family were soon in-terned at Kuching in condi-tions of brutal privation. Among the stories of his experience with animals, written during the last decade of his life (but not yet published), he includes one of thanks to the snails on which survival sometimes depended.

Release from internment was followed by the rediscovery of a second copy of his malaria report (produced and hidden during his brief release in 1943) and the recovery, by occupation forces, of the prototype microscope which was being used by a Japanese medic. Back in England, and working from his Cambridgeshire home, John and Kitty set about the long battle in which he hoped to turn his pocket microscope into a high quality instru-ment that would be of value to tropical medicine and a commercial success. In this, as in his work on malaria control. he was never satisfied.

plogist and microscopist, born

### Mellow songs of autumn

Carte Opera was recording for Decca. As the company's principal bass from that year until 1969, he sang the title role in Gilbert and Sullivan's The Mikodo more than 2,000 times. His rendering of the Mikado's Song provided a scream at the end of each verse which was a unique and

terrifying sound. in the 1960s, Don and I founded the Gilbert and Sullivan For All company. As acvan For An Company. As ac-tor managers, we toured Brit-ain, the Fer East, Australasia, and north America, which in-cluded three Hollywood Bowl appearances with the Los Anes Philharmonic.

Then, when we were think-ing of retiring. Don was invited to take part in a television series — and it was widely seen by opera agents. In 1963, following an invita-tion from Matthew Epstein, of Chicago's Lyric Opera, he played Dr Bartole in *The Barber Of Seville*. Another career was unfolding for Don.

He had started singing as a Bristol Cathedral School chorister and began his acting career with the BBC Repertory Company in 1944. After army service, he went into repertory in the West Country and spent 18 months touring the music halls, including a spell opposite Arthur Lucan's Old Mother Riley. It was Lucan who sug-

several honorary doctorates and was awarded life memberships of, among others, the Linnean Society and the Royal Microscopical Society. He remarried after his first wife died in 1962 and, in addi-tion to his son Malcolm (who also survived interament and is now working in Botswana), has a son and daughter by his

FIRST met Don Adams, gested Don should audition who has died aged 67, in for the D'Oyly Carte, and he 1953 at London's Kingsway joined the company in 1951.

Hall, where the D'Oyly That later career in grand That later career in grand opera was to take him to Covent Garden, the US, the Welsh National Opera,

Chil
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make

wrong

150

Glyndebourne, Holland, and the Scottish Opera. It started with a small part as a frontier guard in *Boris Godunou*. Last November, he belied me celebrate my 50th year as a professional singer with a three-day Lake District opera event. In 43 years of friend-ship I never had a serious ar-gument with him.

Matthew Enstein writes When I was 14, the D'Oyly Theatre Fighting through the crush backstage to get his autograph, my mother and I met a man who had enor-mously excited us with his performance in The Mikado. We became firm friends, but

when he left the D'Oyly Carte we lost touch. Then, in 1962, I was involved in the Chica Lyric Opera's The Mikado, directed by Peter Sellars, and I thought of Donald. His instant contact with the audience and effortiess vocal clarity and volume gave him enormous suc-

ume gave him enormous success with the production.

Later I provided him with a list of character parts he should consider. The last time we spoke he told me that he had ticked off every one of those roles except Don Paquale, and he was busy preparing that for the current English National Opera revival Next November he revival Next November he would have made his New York Metropolitan Opera House debut as Quince in the new Tim Albery/David Atherton production of Britten's A Midsummer Night's Dream.

He had an extraordinary and beautiful autumn to his career. He was a friend - and rical talents I have known.

Charles Donald Adams, singer,

Rodney Thomas

### An unrealised vision for Britain

ODNEY Thomas, who has died aged 93, was a teacher and painter, and an architect with a highly original vision. He designed Britain's first prefabricated temporary housing. but his major triumph was the Transport Pavilion for the 1951 Festival of Britain.

The son of an architect in the Indian Civil Service, he was educated in England, and after his parents' death was brought up by his architect uncle Brumwell Thomas, who advised him that since painters never made any money his training should include architecture. The young Thomas trained in painting at the Slade and studied architecture at London University's Bartlett School.

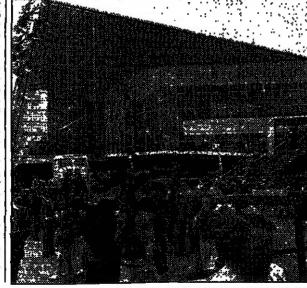
He was full of original design ideas with projects rang-ing from cathedrals to chairs to an entire city. He admired Le Corbusier and, like him, he could think in terms of a house or a huge complex -and then imagine all the interior details.

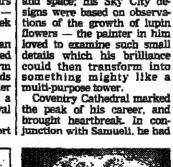
The surrealist painter Eileen Agar commissioned him to design fittings for her London flat in Bramham Gardens, some of which were later installed in the Victoria and Albert Museum's 20thcentury rooms, a rare honour for a living artist. The V&A ish Architects also keep some of his designs on paper.

In 1942 he formed the part- | fated East African groundnut | Pavilion, where an aircraft nership Arcon with Raglan Squire and Edric Neale. The prefab was their first major project, via a government-backed scheme promoting collaboration between architects and industry. Their Arcon Mark V was outstanding and some of these houses still survive. After the war materials were very scarce, which brought Thomas's ingenuity into play. The firm, with Thomas operating from Seymour Walk, his Chelsea home, was also involved in the ill-

scheme, which collapsed due to lack of government funds. This project required housing and furniture, with the chairs and space; his Sky City de-some of which survive -- signs were based on observabased on the classic Greek klismoi design.

When a project required an engineer, Rodney collaborated with Pelix Samueli. The firm produced exhibition stands for Ascot Heaters, and other designs submitted included a new building for the Royal College of Art. Then came the Transport





was suspended as though in a giant hangar. Rodney thought

in original terms of structure



Rodney Thomas and (left) the Transport Pavilion he Britain in 1951

16mm shorts produced by a

proposed an arched cantile vered canopy to link the remains of the bombed-out building with a new nave. When the design was

rejected, he became ill, gave up his architectural practice, and returned to his first love painting. He also taught at Chelsea Art School, the London College of Furniture, but spent longest at Wimbledon School of Art, from 1963-1973, teaching architectural drawing. Martin Fuller remember: how he worked side by side with his diploma students in exercises in colour and per spective drawing, considera bly enlarging his remit.

His blend of science and art and the breadth of his knowledge was inspiring. Increasing blindness led to him giving up work, but did not stop him painting some most interest ing works date from this late period. When he could no longer paint he would still discuss art, music, poetry and ar chitecture with passion. A very tall and good looking man, he was charming and erudite company. He is sur-vived by his third wife Joan Lyon, a son from his first marriage to Violet Guy, and a son and daughter from his second wife Grace Curnock.

E Jane Lushington

Rodney Meredith Thomas, architect and painter, born May 4, 1902; died April 21, 1996

something as innocent as

#### **Paul Sood**

second wife Ruth.

Anthony Tucker

John Nortie McArthur, malari-

Organisation took over the

malaria control programme in Borneo, McArthur pleaded

against widespread spraying with DDT until research had

demonstrated that it would be

more effective than his natu-

ral method of allowing light into stream breeding sites. The WHO, blinded by the de-

ceptive promise of persistent pesticides — and to the world's later cost — ignored

the prewar research results and his plea.

John McArthur was

gentle man, a family man, a

born naturalist with a great feeling for the forces of life, a

doctor and an adventurer in

whom gifts as an inventor

and engineer merged with those of a dreamer. He had

relped huild what is now one of Britain's strongest Asian local economies, writes Patri-cia Hevitt. For more than a decade he was a senior member of the Leicestershire County Council Labour group, where he chaired the Urban Policy Committee. Six elected to Leicester's new uni-

tary authority.
Paul joined the Leicester Labour Party in 1968 as a young professional engineer and became active in the white-collar union ASTMS (now MSF). "I want dignity for Asian people," he would say. Several years ago, as can-didate in a Conservative ward, he insisted on canvasing in estates where white

greeted with grudging respect. Paul's shop — he ran a travel agency and insurance brokerage — his home and the weekly council surgeries were a magnet for people needing help. He often berated the Labour Party for what he saw as its

failure to ensure proper representation for Asian communities. He was a devout Hindu, and had learnt his dedication to community service and his taste for politics from his father, a Punjab politician in India's turbulent post-independence days. He took a BSc in India and came to England at his father's insistence to gain his profes-sional qualifications. His favourite saying, remem-

Birthdays

Rosie Barnes, director, Well- of state, Home Office, 43; John Being UK, former SDP MP, 49; McWilliam, Labour MP, 55; Stuart Bell, Labour MP, 58; Plerce Brosnan, actor, 45; Phil Clarke, rugby league player, 25; Sir Nicholas Goo-dison, chairman, TSB Group, former chairman, Stock Exchange, 62; Jimmy Hood, Labour MP, 47; Roy Hudd, comedian, 50; Janet Jackson, soul singer, 30; Geraint Jones, conductor, harpsichordist and organist, 79; Christian Lacroix, fashion designer. 45; Prof Peter Levi, poet and archaeologist, 65; David Maclean MP, minister

Richard Mason, author, 77: Janet Maw, actress, 42: Prof Kenneth Morgan, principal, University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, 62; Prof Gareth Roberts, vice-chancellor, Sheffield University, 56; Ga-briela Sabatini, tennis player, 26; Frances Spalding, art historian, critic, biogra-pher, 46; Studs Terkel, writer and interviewer, 84; Lt-Gen Sir Antony Walker, former commandant, Royal College of Defence Studies, 62; Debra Winger, film actress, 41.

BY INITIATING the first residents did not always take bered from his father, was strategy in the country, Paul He recalled with pride how, than you take out." He is Sood, who has died aged 53, in time, he and his team were survived by his wife, Manju, his two sons Manesh and Mitesh, his mother and brother.

#### **Death Notices**

PHELIPIE, Christopher, B.Com. A.I.M.T.A. of Angmering, West Susser; tomesty High Lans. Cheshirs. Glod 13th. May 1986 aged 57 years, after a trying liness bravely borne. A loyal servant of Manchester Corporation whom he joined as an office junior in 1924 and retired in 1969 as Senior Assistant Tressurer. A loying and much loved hasbend, tailer and gerediative. Enquires to Durford Funeral Service 01903 750150. Donations in Reu of flowers to : The League of Friends, Zachary Merton Community Hospital, Rusington, West Susser.

POBERTS. Betty, on May 14th in St John's hisspice, Lancaster, Betty, formerly of Bury Grammur School For Girls. Rockrebie Girt's High School, Fryerra School Basilidon and Grey Coet. Hospital, Westminster, the beloved wife of Gettrey of School Road, Heysham and a devoted mother and grandmother. The service will take Julian in 32 Peter's Church, Heysham on Wachesday, May 22nd at Jan 1010wed by Interment in Hate Carr Centeury. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, may be sent for St John's Hospice of Alex Willis Funeral Home. 2 Middelon Road, Hysham LAS 200 telephone 01524 851566.

#### In Memoriam

of the tile and work of the acrees Susen Fleetwood at St James's Church, Pleadilly on Sunday June 9th at 3,30pm. JACKSON, Rory Patrick - 25.9.84 Hong Kong - 18.5.94 London, You can come home now. All le forgiven.

#### **Memorial Services**

To place your announcement tele

caine, according to research

Jackdaw



#### Small sphere

I THINK that the infosphere — the sphere of information — is going to impose itself on the geosphere. We are going to be living in a reduced world. The capacity of interactivity is going to reduce the

world to nearly nothing. In fact, there is already a speed pollution, which reduces the world to nothing. In the near future, people will feel enclosed in a small environment. They will have a feeling of confinement in the world, which will certainly be at the limit of tolerability, by virtue of the speed of information. If I were to offer you a last thought -

what radioactivity is to the French author Paul Viralio on our technological future; inter-

interactivity is to real space

#### Trendsets

BENNY Levy: You said to me once, "I've talked about de-spair, but that's bunk. I talked about it because other people were talking about it, because it was fashionable. Everyone was reading Kier-kegaard then." Jean-Paul Sartre: That's

right. Personally, I have never despaired, nor for one moment have I thought of despair as something that could possibly be a characteristic of mine. Yet I had to consider that despair must exist for other people, since they were talking about it. But it was a passing moment. I see that in many philosophers: early in their work they talk from hearsay about some idea. they give it importance. Then, little, by little, they stop talking about it, because

they realise that for them it's

content doesn't exsist -

they've merely picked up from other people. Levy: Is that true of anguish, too?

Sartre: I have never known

anguish. That was a key philosophical notion from 1930 to 1940. It was one of the notions we made use of all the time, but to me it meant nothing. Of course, I knew grief or boredom or misery, but ---Levy: Misery? Sartre: Well, I knew it through others. I saw it. But anguish and despair, no. From a series of interviews with Jean-Paul Sartre, conducted by Benny Levy, his assistant, in the last years before Sartre's death in 1980. Published in Hope Now: The 1980

#### Vintage porn

Interviews, reviewed in

Harper's.

LONG before hard-core porn films became available to the general public in the 1970s, small audiences of venturesome gay men defied the vice squads and gathered together in stifling, unventilated rooms to watch what were called "smokers", the silent. of jiggling penises. Even

handful of underground pioneers during the 1950s and 1960s. In these smoky, improvised theatres, guilt-ridden men feasted their eyes on such unspeakably obscene things as naked teenagers skinny-dipping in mountain lakes, bare-assed cowboys in g-strings and Stetsons tackling unsuspecting Indian braves, and pensive artists sketching nude athletes in the tasteful poses of classical The ultimate for me is when

discus throwers. For example, in The Captive, a short film for this period, a Roman centurion taunts a disobedient slave in a tiny cache-sexe who, like a damsel in distress, pleads to his captor for mercy as he unconvincingly yanks on the chains that bind him to two teetering plaster pillars. No matter how arous ing gay men may have found vintage erotica, the films fell far short of pornography. They contained no penetration, no erections, and, most importantly, no frontal nudity, at least until the mid-60s

when a Supreme Court ruling

allowed them to offer parades

touching was presented in an extremely stylised manner. Daniel Harris describes the backroom beginnings of gay pornography in the Baffler.

#### **Drag queens** WHAT'S the mannerism, technique, or way of smoking that turns you on the

the woman smokes the entire cigarette without removing it from her mouth. One fond memory is of a girl doing this as she stremuously worked a video game at an arcade, late one night. Periodically she would blast huge plumes of smoke from her nostrils, especially after scoring double points. I had an excellent backlit view — and she knew it! Thoughts and preferences on the colour of a woman's filter on a cigarette? Personally, I think that a shiny gold filter, like those found on Fantasias and Cocktails, is the most elegant of all. I like a brown one, ones with brown filters are stronger. What sipgle TV smoking

Little Ladies Of The Night, featuring Kathy Quinlan and Linda Purl. Since they are both "bad" girls, they smoke Mores, and Linda even does a turn with a Sobranie Black

episode or scene do you still

The scene I remember most is from a bad TV movie called

remember fondly?

#### Russian! Both women really did smoke, and Linda had a great French inhale ... Smoking fetishists being inter-

viewed in Details magazine.

#### Loose moose COLLISIONS between moose

and motor vehicles became so common in Scandinavia that Saab and Volvo redesigned their cars to withstand impact with the massive animals. Now such encounters are rising in North America as moose populations grow and more people drive into moose habitat. "There's a ten times greater liklihood of being injured by hitting a moose than by hitting a deer," says John E Sutton, Jr of the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center. He led a study by New England doctors that urges US auto-makers to follow the Swedish lead. It suggests improved windshields and sturdier for ward-roof support. Green Cross Code advice in the National Geographic

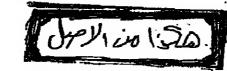
#### Cracked DRUG researchers believe

that a cure for cocaine addictin may be possible. Rats have been successfully immunised against many of the of the stimulant effects of co-

funded by the National Institute in Drug Abuse. Cocaine was prevented from entering the brain by vaccinating the rate with a substance that friggers anti-cocaine anti-bodies. "One long term goal would be to develop a medica-tion capable of immunising cocaine users and addicts against the effects of cocaine. according to Alan L Leshner, director of the Institute. "This research, gives the scientific and medical fields a very promising new direction in the search for a safe means of blocking the damaging effects of crack and co-caine." A potential danger, however, is that people may try to take higher doses of cocaine to overcome the immunisation. Prevention in the Futurist.

Jackdaw wants your jewels, Email jackdaw@guardian-.co.uk; fax 0171-713 4366; Jack daw, The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R SER

**Emily Sheffield** 



Details . . . up on smokes

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### Shell's moment of reflection, page 12

Orphans search for true home, page 12

Financial Editor: Alex Brummer Telephone: 0171-239-9610 Fax: 0171-833-4456

### Finance Guardian

# China faces US clampdown A tale of mutual

### Clinton orders \$3bn sanctions

Martin Walter in Washington

HE Clinton administration announced over \$3 billion in sanctions against China yesterday, a new US record in punitive trade restrictions.

China responded swiftly with the threat of counter-sanctions that ranged from heavy duties on vegetable oils to telecommunications equip-ment and films. "China shall

have no other options but take corresponding counter-retaliation measures," the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Corperation said in a statement

said in a statement.

The trade sanctions will not come into force for 30 days, giving more time for last-ditch talks, and there were some sime last night that elesome signs last night that ele-ments within the Beijing au-thorities may be mounting efforts to avert a damaging trade war with the US. A senior Chinese official said

market to combat intellectual property piracy, the root cause of the dispute.

But China is also likely to

continue with its deliberate courting of European compacourting of European compa-nies like Airbus as a way of putting pressure on the US.

The delegation of British businessmen being led to China next week by deputy prime minister Michael He-seltine can expect to be prom-inent benficiaries of the Chi-nese determination to show the US that it has alternative trading partners. The last US-

China row saw Beijing ordering Airbus aircraft from France and telecommunication and generating equip-ment from Germany. The White House is steeling itself, in an election year, to

trading partners. The last US-

peasing the Beijing regime. Trade rows are but one aspect of a complex strategic relationship across the Pa-cific, in which nuclear prolif-eration and Chinese threats to Taiwan and security issues

all play a part.

Moreover, China's usual reliance on the lobbying efforts of US corporations now runs up against two very powerful US business lobbies which claim that China is electing While Rectar Corp. which claim that China is cheating. While Boeing, Gen-eral Electric, Chrysler and other traditional big corpora-tions want to continue busi-ness as usual with China, both Hollywood and Silicon Valley have had enough.

phrating of US computer soft-ware, CD-ROMs and CD

try, worth \$350 billion a year to the US, 6 per cent of GDP entire auto industry.

Moreover, the export industries of Hollywood and Silicon Valley are growing three times faster than the rest of the economy, and while traditional industry tends to lean to the Republicans, these newer and trendier industries are particularly close to President Clinton.

There is no doubting the determination of Charlene Bar-shefsky, the acting US Trade Representative, to go ahead with the sanctions, which are targeted mainly at Chines exports of textiles and cloth-

trade marked items. These by China's failure to carry make up the copyright indus-out the promises it made in prolonged negotiations with her last year to clamp down on the pirating of US software and CDs

She added: "Our efforts [to negotiate] have been exhaustive. We have given China every reasonable opportunity to come into compliance with its commitments." she com plained, citing 44 high-leve meetings, eight trips to China, 22 months of negotia-tions and investigations, all without serious result.

The US provided evidence that the 31 offending factories were still in business, along with a 12 more. US officials believe they are owned by relative they are owned by the owned by the owned by the owned by th atives of high Chinese officials, and by the armed forces, and are thus under

### destruction



Alex Brummer

HE building society movement, presently holding its annual con-ference in Birmingham, is a shadow of its former self. While the Treasury has dallied over reform legislation, the structure, confidence and objectives of a movement with its roots firmly planted in the traditions of Victorian prudence - have been de-spoiled and distorted. Societies which not so long ago attended these annual confer ences in a spirit of good-willed competition, are now

at each other's throats. The biggest losers from the upheaval, engendered by a Government without vision and direction on competition policy in general and in the financial services sector in housebuyers. Savers because they are now being offered some cases less than the low rate of inflation — and future housebuyers who will be deprived of choice.

Of course, the building society movement has not been an innocent bystander. Several societies were so busy behaving like banks, particu-larly when it came to repossessing properties and rewarding executives, that they came to believe the propaganda that conversion to a plc or absorption by one of the financial monoliths was the only way forward.

Moreover, those societies which determinedly wished to remain mutuals waited far too long before coming up with the satisfactory loyalty bonuses — such as higher rates of return on savings or and conversion in November

cheaper mortgages. Yet many societies might have remained mutuals had the climate been different, but were pushed over the edge by government inaction. They have been required to operate in a legislative framework which put mutuals at a financial and regulatory disadvantage to the banking sector, with its access to wholesale money markets, its freedoms in bancassurance and more flexible regulatory regime. In

addition, the Government did

nothing to protect societies from the menace of specula-

ALL these flows have done is remove access from the large numbers of genuine small savers to building societies which were institution. Over the longer founded precisely to serve their needs. Or, in the case of societies which are converting, to all but require savers to mortgage borrowers, as to bang on for interest rate Cheltenham & Gloucester returns which, frankly, are insulting. The present return on an instant access account is 2.45 per cent before tax, a

The ironic aspect of the destruction of the building soci-

the present conversion and takeover fever has played itself out little more than 20 per cent of pre-1990 assets will remain in the movement) is that much of it has been car-ried out under the rubric of efficiency and competition. Yet the building societies have long been more efficient and competitive than the banks they are now striving to be, or will become part of.

A paper in the March 1998
edition of the Manchester
School of Economics and
Social Studies journal\* has
found that UK building societing are "relatively efficient". ies are "relatively efficient" when compared to US banks and that overall inefficiency is minimal.

Compare this to the UK banking sector where our largest domestic bank, NatWest, recently announced that in order to be more efficient it must shed 15,000 jobs, close 350 branches and make a dash for new technologies. The back offices which the clearing banks are now seek-ing to eliminate, have been gone from the building societies for nearly a decade. The largest society, the Halifax, was a pioneer in this area. And the Alliance and Leicesinformation systems to allow almost everyone in the enter societies, freed partly from paying out ever-increasing dividends, which have been able to find the enormous sums of money needed for the most modern technologies, while some banks have scarcely left the 19th century.

Bull.DING society members have been tempted to vote for conversions and takeovers by cash and share bribes. The financial press has played its role in building up the hysteria, which has made members of the mubile believe that an inthe public believe that an instant access account is the equivalent of a lottery win.

But there is no free ride. Members of the Halifax/ Leeds, who learnt of merger 1994, will have to wait until at least Spring 1997 for their payouts. Meanwhile, as data in the Bank of England's May borrowers and savers in those societies which have chosen to stay mutual, are benefitting from lower mortgage costs and stronger savings. The converting societies have from relending cheaply ob-tained deposits at higher

The rub, however, is that tive financial flows — in the hope of cash bonuses. the banks — which are being hope of cash bonuses. coverting building societies term, the banks, squeezed by bad debts and dividend demands, will force up the cost (now part of Lloyds) has recently, surreptitiously.

done. \*Productive and Allocative Inefficiencies in UK Building Societies by Leigh Drake and Thomas G Weyman-Jones of ety movement (by the time Loughborough University.

### C&W makes wrong call

■RESH doubts surround the future of Cable & Wireless after its an-nouncement of a new, highly paid, chief executive and a renewed commitment to existing policies failed to capture the City's imagination.

C&W announced yesterday that Dick Brown, the president and chief executive of H&R Block, the largest American tax group, will take over as chief executive in July, on a salary of £650,000 a year. Mr Brown, who oversaw Block's flotation of its on-line information service, Compu-

Serve, previously worked for US telecom groups Ameritech and Sprint before joining Block in August last year. C&W chairman, Brian Smith, said that Mr Brown would help plug the US gap in the group's worldwide opera-

tions and oversee a return to

the strategy of expansion through joint ventures.

The news disappointed the City which had been expecting a more radical appointment following C&W's lacklustre performance in recent years and its failed merger talks with British Telecom.

The group's shares ended the day 5p down at 464p.

day 5p down at 464p. Mr Brown will be entitled to a bonus worth up to 100 per cent of his basic salary if C&W's real earnings per share grow by 15 per cent a year for three years. He will also be granted share options worth £2.6 million when he over the period. Rod Olsen, who took over

as acting chief executive following the abrupt depar-ture of chairman Lord Young and chief executive James Ross after a bitter boardroom row at the end of last year, has been appointed deputy chief executive, with special responsibility for developing business in the Asia Pacific region. A new finance director is to be appointed shortly.

C&W wants to expand its existing US business so that it can offer the whole range of telecoms services required by multi-national companies and compete with Concert, the joint venture owned by Brit-ish Telecom and its American partner MCI, and with Global One, the joint venture be-tween Deutsche Telekom,

France Telecom and Sprint



New deal... Donning the red uniform of Virgin Airlines, Lisa Leeson was at Gatwick yesterday to begin training as an £8,000-a-year plus allowances flight attendant. She will eventually qualify for free flights to visit husband Nick, the jailed ex-Barings trader, in Singapore PHOTOGRAPH SIMON KRETTEM

### Mortgage of the future to be priced in euro

Teresa Hunter

joins in July. These can be cashed in after three years but only if real earnings per share have risen by 6 per cent over the period.

RITAIN'S biggest mortgage lenders are planning to overhaul the traditional home loan ahead of a single European currency with the launch of euro

mortgages. Lending giants have put detailed plans in place for finan-cial life in Britain after 1989. when they believe European currencies will join in a single currency - the euro with the UK forced to accompany them within a few years. The building societies have produced blueprints for euro

savings accounts, passbooks and cash-dispensers despite the Government's Increasingly Eurosceptical tone. A Halifax spokesman said:
"Our view is that a single
European currency will happen and that the UK will be brought in within two or three years. This will mean substantial changes for our products, the housing market and the economy as a whole. For survival between mutual over expenses claims.

Bradford and Bingley's plans for a euro mortgage are had no preference. Service to already at an advanced stage, customers was paramount. and will be launched ahead of single currency. Bradford and offer lower interest rates than sterling mortgages to UK mortgages. We could even reach the stage where Britain remains outside the currency alignment but employees ask to be paid in euro."

to be paid in euro."

A Nationwide spokesman however said that it was important mortgage lenders did not get ahead of the political agenda. "This is a sensitive lissue which we cannot ignore. But we have to research to political wrocress."

amnounced the appuntment of a new finance director Robert Jeens, formerly group finance director of Kleinwort Benson, who will replace Michael Duka when he retires head of a new finance director Robert Jeens, formerly group finance director of Kleinwort Benson, who will replace Michael Duka when he retires lenders did not get along the portant mortgage lenders did not get along the portant mortgage lenders did not get along the portant mortgage lenders did not get along the political agenda. "This is a sensitive lissue which we cannot get along the political agenda to the political ag pond to political progress OFT director general John Ridgman yesterday welcomed

With 99.9 per cent of our assets in sterling we have to look forward and be He said that competition was always in the customer's best interest — but the OFT

His remarks came as Birthe UK's participation in mingham MidShires chief ex-Bingle currency, standard ainst the surface of the or that it was poised to merge with the Woolwich. He said it had received no approach from any organisation since

> The Woolwich yesterday amounced the appointment of a new finance director Rob-ert Jeens, formerly group fi-nance director of Kleinwort

said it was still no nearer to appointing a new chief execu-

pin its continued opera-tions and reduce £461 million debt. The plan includes a swap of debt for equity by banks. which would leave existing shareholders with only 15 per cent of the company. But the directors warned that failure to approve the package would almost cer-tainly result in liquidation.

last chance

plan to contain

CENTRAL Trailer Rentals, the former Tip-

hook container company which hit a financial crisis

two years ago, last night revealed details of a finan-

cial restructuring to under

£461m debts

past six months has been disappointing, especially in the UK where the usual the UK where the usual stand to lose out, with averchristmas peak failed to minimally.

The directors are confident of having adequate flight of the estimated £2 billion. the directors are country dent of having adequate finances for the next 18 compensation bill faced by insurers who advised people to out of occupational forecasts beyond that point. Following the deal with the banks and other lenders who have continued to

Even assuming the recon struction is approved, the group's future remains dif-

ficult. Trading over the

support the company, fl-nance director Richard Raine will leave. He will be replaced by David Howell, an accountant and formerly chief ex-ecutive of a telecoms ser-

vices company.

It is also intended to recruit a full-time chief executive, allowing Ian Clubb return to his position as non-executive chairman. Existing loan notes will be swapped for new notes and shares, while new bank finance will be replaced by

a mixture of shares and new lours. Frozen funds will also be released, and CTR also plans to sell its rail div-

#### CTR draws up | Watchdog lets insurers off the Serps hook

■NSURERS will not be forced to compensate up to 238,000 people who may have been wrongly advised to leave the state earnings-related pen-sion scheme (Serps).
A report published yester-

day by the chief City watch-dog, the Securities and Investment Board, says there is no evidence of systematic misselling of personal pensions to people opting out of Serps. Since 1968, employees have been allowed to contract out of Serps and have some of their National Insurance contributions directed into a "rebate" personal pension. More than five million

people have opted out of Serps in the past eight years, but research by actuaries Alexander Clay and Coopers & Ly-brand suggests only 4 per cent stand to lose out, with aver-

schemes. However, most of the losses have been incurred by young,

low-paid employees who have drifted in and out of employment and been unable to build up a personal fund. The report says flat-rate charges levied by some insurers have taken too large a chunk of low-value funds.

SIB chairman Andrew Large said the losses incurred were too small to justify compulsory remedial action by pension providers, but he warned that the regulator would consider publishing de-tails of pension providers who did not take steps to reduce the impact of fixed charges on low-value funds.

The pensions arms of Bar-clays, Midland, NatWest, Abbey National and Royal Bank of Scotland announced Coprus 0.6350 Penmark 8.73 isions, raising an expected | they would scrap flat rate administration charges.

### **BBC** 'puts jobs in Wales at risk'

**Geoffrey Gibbs** 

EARS that South Wales
could lose out on a
£1 billion hi-tech inward investment because of premature publicity have provoked a furious row between the BBC and the Welsh Office. Reports that Lucky Gold-

electronics groups, was about to announce plans to build a silicon chip plant and create 4,000 jobs in Newport led the main television news bulletin on Friday and featured prominently on news and business programmes at the weekend. The reports — which said the announcement would be

made at the beginning of this week — threw the Welsh Office into a state of apoplexy.

the huge inward investment to Wales remain at a delicate stage and officials feared the news coverage might be interpreted as trying to force Goldstar's hand in favour of Wales rather than rival locations in Scotland, Ireland and Northeast England.
It is understood that offi-

cials sought to persuade the BBC that the deal had not been clinched and that the reports might damage New port's chances of securing the

Frantic efforts were made by the Welsh Office and the Welsh Development Agency over the weekend to placate the Korean company and assure it the reports had not come from a Government

TOURIST RATES --- BANK SELLS

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Hong Kong 11.42 india 52.80 iruland 0.9425

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#### City disturbed by wage-rise threat to inflation target ings growth would clearly add to the impetus. So while April's drop in unemploy-ment was less than expected. reining in to avoid inflation | man said: "Recent growth in

HE City took fright at new evidence that wage in-creases are unexpectedly beginning to take off, renewing fears that the Government's tough inflation target is under threat.

Despite a relatively modest rise in earnings growth to 3.75 per cent in March, the increase was enough to weaken gilts and short sterling as the markets assumed a higher probability that interest rates will rise from 6 per cent.

As official unemployment fell by 3,200 to 2,183,500 in April, its lowest level for five years, new earnings data re-ignited concern that the economic recovery, led by con-sumer spending, could need CIBC analyst David

passing the Government's 25 oer cent goal.

Rising basic pay settle-ments, as well as a significant ments, as well as a significant jump in one-off bonuses, were behind the rise, up from an initial estimate of 3.5 per cent in February which was in turn revised to 3.75 by the Office for National Statistics.

The Treasury immediately

The Treasury immediately tried to damp down reaction, saying that the rate was historically low. But City analysts said that the earnings figures had come at a sensi-tive time, a day after the Bank of England warned that the revival in consumer spending could be strong enough to warrant a rise in interest rates if the Government is to CIBC analyst David Cole-

the economy has been under-pinned by consumer spend-ing, and a rise in real earn-

Wage change

Average wage growth, % change over 12 months.

the view that another cut in base rates is unwarranted is gaining ground."

Sept 95

claimants registered for six months or more rose by 14,300 during the same period, and the number of new vacancles also down between March and April by 6,790. The headline rate of claimant unemployment masked

Education and employment

minister Seric Forth stressed

the decrease in long-term unemployment (people claiming benefit for a year or more) of 9,700 in the three months to April. But the number of

the first rise in female joblessness since October.

Bid plans are put on hold until after next election

### PowerGen renews attack on Lang

Simon Beavis

OWERGEN, the electricity generator thwarted by the Government in its attempt to buy Midlands Electricity, yesterday made a fresh attack on the Trade and Industry Secretary, lan Lang. and said it still wanted to buy a regional electricity

Branding the Government's decision to block its Midlands bid as a political move to "quieten down the market", chief executive Ed Wallis said PowerGen would keep its sights on buying an REC — most likely after the general

He spoke as the company rushed out its results for the year to the end of March and announced a £400 million cluding a 10 per cent buy back of its shares and a 40 per cent increase in the final dividend

The package has been funded by the sale of Power-Gen's 21 per cent stake in Midlands on Tuesday where it made a £69 million profit - and the proceeds of the sale of half its 32 million

shares in National Grid. Mr Wallis stuck to his pre-

utilities would eventually | 12 per cent share of the genemerge to dominate the privatised electricity market, despite Mr Lang's decision to override Monopolies Commission recommendations and block the Midlands bid and a

similar pitch by National Power for Southern Electric.
"It will happen. It's only a matter of when," he insisted. He said that Mr Lang's deci-sion had created a "farcical" situation in the UK electricity

Mr Wallis insisted that it was better for shareholders if the group used its brimming each resources to make hig ticket acquisitions, either at home or overseas, rather than mounting bigger share buyhack programmes. The com-pany was playing down City speculation that it might even consider bidding for a water

company. The group was also waiting for full clarification from the industry regulator. Professor Stephen Littlechild, about its proposed £450 million sale of power stations to Hanson.

The deal has been frozen by PowerGen in the light of Mr Lang's decision because Hanson, which already owns the regional company Eastern, is emerging as the sort of verti-cally integrated power company that PowerGen aspired

eration market by next April when PowerGen's share will have fallen to 20 per cent PowerGen has sought clarification from Professor Littlechild. One option open to the group is to appeal to the Office of Fair Trading if it fails to gain sufficient solace.
But some believe Eastern could try to force PowerGen's hand by resorting to legal action to force a completion of

the deal. The City was cheered by news that pre-tax profits last year rose by 26 per cent to £687 million on sales up by 2 per cent to £2.93 billion. But observers were concerned about PowerGen's still abrasive approach to Mr Lang's decision and the shares slid hack 10p to 537p.
One analyst said: "Where

they fall short is by bursting blood vessels over govern-ment decisions. The average person in the street takes it for granted the Government will screw it up but they seem incapable of doing that."

The results were boosted by a £121 million credit from the release of provisions no longer needed but there were also accelerated depreciation charges of £57 million and a £37 million provision to cover losses and long-term contracts at its troubled gas joint

#### News in brief

#### £250m city centre plan for Birmingham

A £250 million plan to redevelop a large area of Birmingham's city centre has been agreed by the property group Land Securi-ties and the Australian insurance company AMP, which owns Pearl Assurance. The scheme covers the Martineau Square and Priory Square shopping centres and an adjacent office block in a 10-acre site bounded by Corporation Street, High Street and Union Street. It is next to Masshouse Circus, where Birming-ham council plans to create Millenium Point as a focus for the regeneration of Digbeth. — Roger Couse

#### Watchdog's gas challenge

OFGAS is to ask British Gas to explain its warning that 10,000 jobs might be lost if the company implemented new pricing rules issued by the industry watchdog earlier this week. Claire Spottiswoode, Ofgas director general, is to write to British Ges chairman, Richard Giordano, seeking an explanation. A British Gas spokesman said: "The (company) figures were based on careful analysis of the Ofges documentation. We stand by them."

#### Larger slice for rail Investors

THE Government plans to give small investors a larger slice of Railtrack after more than 500,000 people applied to buy shares in the state-owned operator of Britain's rail infrastructure. The public offer will be more than twice subscribed, meaning that the Government will offer small investors more than 30 per cent of Railtrack's shares. — Bloomberg

#### £57m profit for Greenalls

GREENALLS, the Cheshire-based drinks and hotels group, announced first-half pre-tax profits of £57 million, a 44 per cent increase. Greenalls, owner of around 2,300 pubs, which was admitted to the FTSE-100 earlier this year, said the acquisition of the Boddington pub chain for £408 million had contributed £13.3 million to profits, while integration of the former Boddington businesses is likely to be completed within the next fortnight, producing £18 million of savings. The shares closed down 20½p, at 590½p, on profit-taking. — Ian King

#### Free tickets on Eurostar

FREE standard return tickets are being offered on Eurostan services from now until the end of the year by the consortium, headed by Richard Branson, which has taken over the running of the three-hour rail trip from London to Paris. The value of the ticket is from 539 upwards but, to qualify, passengers must have first purchased a \$220 first-class return. Eurostar aims to break even within two years and to raise passenger usage from 3 million to more than 10 million. — Keith Harper

#### Cable firm's loss

Underside

Roger Cowe

COURSE Germans

have a sense of hu-

mour, but can they get their facts straight? The

chief executive of Siemens,

Jürgen Gehrels, encouraged by the presence of Europhile

the matey atmosphere at this week's German-British

Chamber of Commerce and

Industry lunch, chortled:

"We were pleased to see the

hancellor Ken Clarke and

BRITAIN'S largest cable company, TeleWest, turned in a net loss of £53.4 million during the first quarter compared with £17.7 million for the same period last year. The group acquired SBS CableComms in October last year. — Nicholas Bannister

### Dasa sale falls

that it has abandoned its efforts to sell its MTU subsidiary to rival aero-engine naker, BMW Rolls-Royce. One stumbling block in the way of a deal was the competition between Rolls-Royce and the US engine manufacturer, Pratt & Whitney, MTU's partner in me areas

under discussion for some time will not take place," Rainer Hertrich, MTU's president, said in Berlin

the aero-engine company and is aiming to see the lossmaking subsidiary break even by 1998 at the latest. That is expected to mean a programme of cost-cutting and workforce

the BMW Rolls-Royce joint venture would have meant MTU selling valuable parts of the operation while the possibility of its taking on a role of sub-contractor to the rival concern also foundered on competition con-cerns. "We will stay as we are. We will continue a policy of being a risk-andreward-sharing partner on engine programmes that make economic sense."

### AUMILER Benz aero-space division, Dasa, resterday revealed

business.
"The sale of MTU München to BMW that has been

yesterday. Dasa now intends to keep

According to a Dasa spokesman, selling MTU to

Rolls-Royce yesterday ac-knowledged the industrial logic of putting MTU together with its own joint venture but also accepted the difficulties.

# through Mark Milner

Commercial Union steps into controversy

OMMERCIAL Union | yesterday fuelled the debate on the owner-ship of surplus funds when it revealed that its so-called orphan estate contained

director, said that the group's orphan estate was roughly the same size as that of GA's term. Both companies insis ster financial strength and are already benefiting share-holders and policyholders.

2,700 jobs in Britain and In-

Bad news for western businesses hoping to make a killing in China. Chinese managers have attended a special school, set up to apply ancient chinese military strat-egies to the business world. Time to resurrect military metaphors about cut-throat

IFE has not been overly burdensome Michael Lawrence since a closely guarded secret. But the Underside can exclusively reveal that he is not

rence has such an embarrassment of Exchange cash that he is this very day flying into the British Virgin Isles to tie up a "property deal". Doubtless his acknowledged skills of tact and diplomacy will serve Çaribbean real estate

clearly owned by policyhold-

ers as mutuals have no shareholders. Orphan estates became an issue in the early 1990s. Both London and Manchester and and Prudential have all said United Friendly agreed with the DTI that £108 million and

could not strictly be called reallocated to the sharehold 21.5 billion. A decision on the orphan since they were ers fund for which they now allocation of both of these earn interest. United Friendly

also gave its with profits policyholders a special bonus. Since then Refuge Assurthey are in talks with the DTI about their orphan funds.

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Marie Marie

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CHAPTER! 4

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The control of the co

by the City. But the main interest sur-rounds the Prudential, estimated to have an orphan fund of up to £5 billion. These talks are not expected to end for at least another year. When they 2290 million respectively could be attributed to share orphan estate worth about for the with-profits policy-holders. Neither sum was paid out. Instead they were nic's could be around for shareholders.

#### Shell snubs the Ogoni HELL mounted a robust efence of its activities in Nigeria yesterday, ruling out a withdrawal from the country, and calling for an atmosphere of "reconcilia-Chairman John Jennings attempted to draw the sting from attacks on Shell's policy on Nigerla at the group's annual meeting, agreeing to shareholder calls for a moment's "quiet reflection" in memory of writer Ken Saro-Wiwa, a long-time critic of Shell who was hanged by Nigeria's military government last November. Mr Jennings admitted publicly for the first time that Shell had bought around 100 handguns for police guarding its operations in Ogoniland, the Nigerian region where it has been accused of damaging the environment, and where Mr Saro-Wiwa's campaign was based. He also admitted that Shell's drilling standards in Nigeria were not as high as

those applied elsewhere and that Shell had suffered more oil spills in Nigeria than else But Mr Jennings enraged critics by ruling out interven-tion on behalf of 19 more Ogoni activists being held by the Nigerian government, in-sisting it was not for Shell to "interfers" in the country's legal increases and by refus legal processes, and by refus-ing calls from Pirc, the corpo-

rate governance consultancy, for a shareholder poll on Shell's report and accounts. During an often heated meeting. Mr Jennings told the 700 shareholders present that Shell wanted to return to Ogoniland --- where it has not been active since 1993 — and was prepared to clean up the

ares, "no questions asked". Responding to a request by shareholder Charles Meadower for a minute's silence Mr Jennings said: "I respect your feelings and, like you, I regret the tragic loss of life in Ogoniland."

Responding to other share-holder criticism, Mr Jennings accused Greenpeace of lying in its campaign against Shell's disposal of the Brent

### Orphans in search of their true home

#### over surplus funds by admitting it has £1bn in the pot, reports Pauline Springett

around £1 billion. The announcement came as CU, the UK's largest insurer, unveiled a slump in its first quarter profits. Pre-tax profits were £105 million, com-pared to £112 million last year. Like rival General Acci-dent this week. CU blamed the decline on higher claims from bad weather in the UK

and North America.
Peter Foster, CU's finance and added that CU also had no plans to distribute its orphan fund in the short that the surpluses help to bol-

Orphan funds are so called because they are surpluses whose ownership is uncer-tain. They can arise in various ways, but a common reason for their existence is that insurers have made cautious payments to their policyholders. The debata centres on whether they are owned by shareholders or with-profits policyholders.

A host of insurers are at

various stages of talks with the Department of Trade and Industry over the allocation of their orphan funds. The UK's total orphan funds have been estimated at £35 billion to £40 billion, although Roman Cizdyn, an insurance analyst at brokers Merrill Lynch said he believed it would be more accurate to put it at £10 billion.

He explained that this was partly because the original estimates now appeared overdone but also because surplus funds of mutual insurers

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#### Cup supported by a German." Except, of course, that there are no Germans playing for Manchester United. Peter Schmeichel hails from Denmark, where the population had to be leaned on twice before they opted for European Union. But then, some Germans have always thought of Denmark as more German than Scandingvian. LSEWHERE in Scandinavia, or is it Germany, Norwegians are still trying to obliterate the memory of "null points"

**Eurovision Song Contest** last year. The Norwegian sponsors of this year's contest are keen to extol the virtues of Norwegian business. For example, No gian salmon production costs have haived in the last decade; and Hardanger is the world's most north-erly fruit-growing region thanks to monks from York. Even more interesting, many Japanese mar-riages are apparently kept going by ground reindeer antiers, regarded as an aphrodisiac. Come back Dana.

**↑** OME back those nice Eurosceptics suffer a set-back this weekend when a personnel people from the time before Frenchman lifted the FA they became known as human resource management. The people have aged women - a cross between public school matron and hospital sister — to a breed of male which was supposed to have died out in the 1970s.

This observation comes from the cutting edge of human resource management — a conference of senior professionals discussing equal opportunities at work.

memory of 'null points" elicit information from a even though they won the senior conference orga-



niser (male) was offered "Pphhwooar, check that out" as a female personnel officer walked by. It changed along with the turned out he was also res-name, from the middle-ponsible for giving the OK to a cabaret featuring women dressed in bunny suits à la Playboy, and is also the man who refers to his female staff as "tampons" because they mop everything up. Hooray for

> T LOOKS like the sale of will be next to benefit from the inspired "yes it hurt, yes it worked", apmonth after the company's proach to advertising. It controversial announce-

copy the British Nuclear Fuels approach of abstract high technology, with robots and no mention of the words nuclear or waste. One idea could be a two-headed version of Sid the British Gas investor and the encouragement, in this case, of multiple share applications. But after recent events at Gas, Sid must be avoided. How about: "If Britain had an energy policy, nuclear power would be very important". No, far

HE curse of Doctor Death continues. It seemed just an unhappy coincidence when Lord Owen, fresh from his years as a peace envoy in the Labour Party, the SDP and Yugoslavia, became a non-executive director of Coats Viyella in September 1994, on the same day that the company was dumped out of the FTSE-100 index.

But sadly for Coats, his curse shows no sign of disappearing. Chairman Sir David Alliance delivered a profits warning on Tuesday nuclear power stations along with his statement at the annual meeting. The news comes less than a would be too transparent to | ment that it was cutting | magnate.

dia at a cost of £50 million. Investors in Middlesex Holdings, where the Doctor is chairman, be warned.

competition, suicidal pricing and being blown out of his well-publicised sacking as chief executive of the Stock Exchange. The size of severance pay still remains

on his beam ends. In fact, the ebullient LawTransfer May by

Shell

snubs the

Ogoni

### **Kelleway holds Derby** ace in Glory Of Dancer

Nash House taken out of betting after poor show in the Dante. **Graham Rock** reports

Pelder, who was Italian betting showed good speed to reach the leaders, but fired in the final furlong and finished distributions. The following shows the property of the firest of th

LORY OF DANCER and Olivier Peslier won a muddling race for the Homeowners lecca Dante Stakes at York esterday, beating Dushyandr half a length. Paul felleway's colt is now 5-1 avourite with all three major columniates for the Vodafone in Japan and 44 in Mecca Dante Stakes at York yesterday, beating Dushyan-tor half a length. Paul Kelleway's colt is now 5-1 favourite with all three major bookmakers for the Vodafone Derby at Epsom on June 8.

It would be unwise to take the form too literally, though. With none of the leading contenders wanting to make the running, Jack Jennings set a modest pace and was still in front with less than two fur-

front with less than two fur-longs remaining.

Then Glory Of Dancer and Dushyantor swooped, with Glory Of Dancer showing just the better speed to beat Henry Cecil's colt. A length away, Jack Jenning hung on to be third ahead of Nash House, who threatened briefly two who threatened briefly two furlongs from home, with Double Leaf and Storm

no problem." he said.

Peslier, who has ridden 22
winners in Japan and 44 in France this year, was enjoying his first success in England. Last season he landed the Irish Derby on Winged Love and rode Freedom Cry into second place behind Lammtarra in the Arc, but he sedigner and vesterday's race

Lammtarra in the Arc, but he rates Glory Of Dancer the best horse he has sat on.

Glory Of Dancer was due to be sold last autumn after he had won the Gran Criterium in Milan, but he failed to pass a veterinary examination because of a weakness in his cause of a weakness in his

who threatened briefly two furlongs from home, with Double Leaf and Storm Trooper close up.

A pony track near Caen was where Peslier learned his skill as a boy. The French Tree is a boy two furlongs from home, with Double Leaf and Storm Trooper close up.

A pony track near Caen was where Peslier learned his skill as a boy. The French Tree is a boxed in on the rails aboard Storm Trooper. He reported that he would have gone close if he had made the running.

Nash House, who drifted with Storm Trooper, but he still maintained his fine record at the major British meetings with a feet on Bathilde, Fairy Wind and Proud Native to dramatically in the pre-race first day. The Italian syndicate which

Kelleway. While he has earned the nickname "Pattern Race Paul" for tilting at equine windmills more often than seemed justified by the quality of his stock, Kelleway has a good record with the relatively modest horses in

pedigree and yesterday's race provided an insufficient test of stamina to be conclusive.

of stamina to be conclusive.
Cecil was pleased with Dushyantor. "He has come on a lot from last time, and will come on again," he said. "They didn't go fast enough for him today."
Michael Kinane spent most of the race hoved in on the

out of the Derby betting.

Even Top is generally the second favourite, Ladbroke's 6-1 being the top price, while Coral's 7-1 is the most generous about Mark Of Esteem, the 2,000 Guineas winner.

With Dr Massini Fine Alam With Dr Massini, King Alex and Astor Place due to meet at York today, another lead-

ing Derby contender could emerge, but Dushyantor makes the most appeal at this stage. Yesterday he was running for only the third time, and he looks sure to improve over

the mile and a half of the Pat Eddery will be back in the saddle for Epsom and on the big day Dushyantor is un-

likely to be available at the 7-1 offered by Ladbrokes and Kinane may have been dis-appointed with Storm Trooper, but he still main-tained his fine record at the



First leg... Bathilde (left) kicks off Michael Kinane's 629-1 treble with a first-race win left in to benefit others at in the Middleton Stakes at York yesterday

PHOTO: MICHAEL STEELE the top of the weights.

.5 Dynwyse (3) 9 .R Perison 7 .H Adoess 6 .P P Mounty (6) 12

...P P Morphy (6) \*
...W Span 4
...H Yerley (2) 3
...Hork Lysek 10
...A Dely (8) 8
...W Woods 6
...G Berdwell 8
...B Destinad 18+

...A Netlinna 4 ...A Daly (5) 6 ...S Drowne (3) 5 ...W Woods 6 ...W Rysn 7 ...G Hind 6 ...C Ruster 2 ...F Horton 7 ...M Adams 9

### O'Brien faces Hotel

ADAN O'BRIEN, the re-cord-breaking Irish trainer, faces charges of acting in a manner prejuproper conduct or good rep-utation of British racing at a Jockey Club inquiry

inquiry

today.
O'Brien, 26, who has broken all records in Ireland since taking out a licence in 1992, was referred to the disciplinary committee at Portman Square by the Cheltenham stewards after his withdrawal of Hotel Minella from the Coral Cup

at the Festival meeting. The gelding finished ninth in the Champion Hurdle on the opening day of the fixture and was pulled out of the following day's Coral Cup on the morning of the race.

Hotel Minella's declaration under top-weight for the £40,000-added handicap stopped the weights rising at the overnight stage and left 15 of the 23 runners out of the handicap proper, prompting suggestions — which O'Brien strenuously denied — that he had been

#### 4.10Pa Two Past Str.

York with TV form

3.05 ROYAL MARK (nep)	
	8.10

3.40 Strategic Choice

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205	2-1	PROMPTLY (22) M Storte 9-0	Reld B
206	\$14~16	SKY DOME (13) (BF) M Tompkins 8-9	
207	011-33	MYBOTYE (21) G Oldroyd 8-7	Weaver 5
206	021-	MISSILE (213) W Hagges 8-7	R Cockress 12
296	522-0	RIDIAN RELATIVE (16) R Guest 1-1	W Curson 8
210	01-4	CHARLE CHANG (13) (D) A Harmon 8-1	Sanders 6
211	000-241	SPIRITO LIBRO (11) (D) C Alien 8-0	
212	65-61	MAWIROD (10) G Wrage 7-12-(Sex)	J Chilles 1
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302	18-6D LETLUCE (10) (D) J Arnold 9-2	
204	31120-5 ROYAL MARK (11) (D) J Wests 6-9	Pot Eddery 3
305	522-6 TARNEEM (11) M Stouts 6-0	
306	1924-24 LAMINE (28) P Waltryn 8-9	R Cockrace 4
307	42-6 DOUBLE BLIST (26)   Baldon 5-6	
306	0516-0 PANET IT BLACK (18) (D) A Hanson 8-8	T Quites 7
300	145-0 POLISH SPRING (13) 8 HHs 8-6	B Thompton 6
310	2531-00 CARSCATURE (19) G Lewis 8-5	Paul Eddery 18
811	D-01024 SUALTACH (9) (D) (BF) R Hollingbead 8-5	D Harrison 6
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Blinkered today for the first time: FOLKESTONE: 7.20 Motor Clock. AINTREE:
 5.45 Consumonger, Rinky Dinky Doo; 6.45 Celtic Town. SALISBURY: 2.45 Pride of Kashmir: 4.20 Lincon Twenty One. Little Kenny

#### Salisbury runners and riders

.40 Love Buteta	3.45 Jamira
L10 Bold Catch	4.20 Daily Rick
L45 Baloustur	4.50 Sardonia
L15 Chief Contender	5.29 Old Irish

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5	G DAMCE MODEL (17) J Shedran 3-8-7	P P Marphy (8) 12
	KIDSTON LASS J Toller S-5-7	G Duffield 7
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7	SALTY JACK S Dow 9-0	A Daly (5) 11
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#### Aintree (N.H.) tonight

5.45 Keelbrorth	7.15 Red Valorian
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	.45 Rodfari Producer

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6.45 Man Of Myelory	8.16 Strong Approach		
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SSEND DR ROCKET (8) (D) R Dicker 13-10-9 ...
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Rush to say

#### **ENDSLEIGH LEAGUE PLAY-OFFS**

**First Division** 

Stoke 0, Leicester 1 (agg: 0-1)

### Parker chills Stoke fire

ARRY PARKER'S 46th-minute goal was sufficient to move Leicester to within touchthe Premiership, though Crystal Palace might put up a more convincing argu-ment than did Stoke City

The Victoria Ground pos-itively vibrates on occasions such as these. The play-offs are a much-ma-ligned institution but there was a touch of magic in the cold night air.

The opening exchanges were unbearably frantic. The football gushed rather than flowed, the tackles were harsh and unsympathetic, the penalty appeals came and went regularly.

There was no rhythm, no discernible pattern and yet game of great intensity if rather dubious quality.

Stoke's football is an interesting hybrid of intelli-gent tactics and frantic endeavour. They swarm like angry wasps irrespective of whether or not they are en-joying possession. It is a compelling sight if one which hints at desperation. Leicester's approach is al-

together more subtle. They pass the ball effortiessly and it is only an inability to accept what is presented to them on a plate which leaves them wanting.

The play was almost exclusively confined to mid-field and a first half of much effort was remarkable — almost memorable simply because it did not yield even one chance of

The tireless running of Lelcester's Claridge often threatened to bring to an end an uneasy stalemate. But even he was too often guilty of trying to reach his intended targer by way of a hidden tunnel when the front door was clearly

clearly warranted a goal and it duly came when they caught Stoke cold as the second half opened. Barely 30 seconds had elapsed when the combined efforts of Heskey and Taylor un-hinged the home defence.

Taylor's cross from the byline was far from perfect but it was met by Parker who sent a thunderous ris-ing volley just inside the gle of post and crossbar. Stoke's response was to ditch what little precision they had and throw men fruitlessly forward.

Stoke City: Prudhoe; Clarkson. Sigurdsson, Whittle Sandtord, Devilin. Potter (Carruthers, 89min), Weilacs. Gleghom, Steron, Startidge. elejanin, dienni, durrage, Leisester Citys Poole; *Grayson, Walts*, Walsh, izzet, Whitlow, Lennon, Taylor, Parker, Hesksy, Clarkige Referent G Singh (Birmingham).



Perfect start . . . Ray Houghton gives Crystal Palace a third-minute lead at Selhurst Park last night

### Crystal Palace 1, Charlton Athletic 0 (agg: 3-1) Palace upwardly mobile again

Robert Pryce

O-YO, and thrice yo. Crystal Palace, who have been up and down in the past two seasons, are most likely on their way up again. Last night they showed resilience if not overwhelm-

ing brilliance in completing their semi-final play-off victory over Charlton, earning them a trip to Wembley on Monday week. Palace were the champions

last time they won promotion, two years ago, yet lost their first game 6-1 at home, did not win a match until October and finished second from bottom.

The divide has not naring influences and his eye for

they may be the play-off team equipped to survive in the Premiership. They have a £2 million sweeper, a goalkeeper who has played for England and several others who look capable of achieving coherence in Europe's most

demanding league.

If their defence proves solid enough — they need a left-sided wing-back, but then so do Liverpool — they could win a few games with their swift counter-attacking. Ray Houghton, who

remains their most accom-plished midfielder, is 34, which is not necessarily a disadvantage. Last night he

the tension out of his team after three minutes, when he gave them the lead. Charlton had reorganise

their defence after Sunday's 2-1 first-leg defeat to intro duce a sweeper. Palace allowed them no time to rehearse their new roles the veteran Chris Whyte must have been dismayed to find himself having to chase Freedman around - and soon the Charlton penalty area was in disarray. Freedman put Ndah through into space he had vacated and although Rufus made an astonishing

recovery tackle the ball

Then Palace conceded this early initiative. Though they continued to threaten on the counter they spent much of the rest of the half absorbing pressure. Charlton had oppor tunities to equalise but Nel-

a Bowyer shot over and Leaburn went close with the two best chances of the half. The first, a shot from nine yards out, bounced back off Martyn and Palace survived at the cost of an undignified scramble. A quarter of an hour later Martyn was scrambling again after a mix-up with Quinn. Robinson hit a slipped behind him to first-time cross from the left, Houghton, who coolly floated Leaburn headed down

After a Buster Bloodvessel lookalike had surprised the players and amused the crowd with a celebratory streak early in the second half, David Whyte briefly delighted the visiting supporters by putting a shot past Martyn, but the linesman had already signalled offside. Palson shot over, Martyn tipped ace were still doing an un-comfortably large share of the defending but Tuttle dealt with the most insistent alarm by heading over his own bar.

Crystal Palace Marya: K Brown Tutle, Roberts. Edworthy. Grunn. Pricher.

Roberts. Edworthy. Grunn. Pricher.

Rospitch, Veert. Freedman, Nath.

Charlins Athletic Peterson, Jackson, C
Whyle (D Woyle. Strind), Rubs. Balmer.

Robinson, Narvino. S Brown, Bonyee.

Leaburn Nelson (Stewart, 52).

Bedoner J Moliton (Wilson). Aprillied

Second Division: Notts County 1, Crewe Alexandra 0 (agg: 3-2)

### Martindale caps County's comeback

Michael Walker

OTTS COUNTY's opti-mistic plans to regain their First Division status on the rebound after last season's relegation came a step closer to reality at Meadow Lane last night. A tremendous goal from the tireless Gary Martindale sent County through to Wembley,

Colchester were surprised by the simplicity of the move and the lethal manner it was

executed — straight from

Steve Cherry's goal kick.

Chris Leadbitter eased the ball forward for Evans who,

veering effervescently to his left, fired over Carl Ember-son's upstretched arms.

Most of the first-half fizz

came from Argyle. After an impotent display by their for-

wards on Sunday, they responded to a raucous Home

Park atmosphere. The

capacity crowd included one

of Plymouth's oldest support-ers, Michael Foot, an excited

Colchester's defence often

looked strangely nonplussed,

offering nothing more than a

token rally in reply. And four minutes before half-time they

were the second goal behind.

Paul Gibbs had conceded a

free-kick and picked up a booking. Argyle opted for a practice-pitch ploy. Martin Barlow braced himself to take

change of angle.
In one of their intermittent

raids Colchester pulled back a

goal. Kinsella, who had

scored with a 25-yard shot on

Sunday, netted an even more spectacular goal.

Phymouth Argyle: Cherry, Patterson, Williams, Mauge, Heathcote, Barlow, Leadbitter, Logan, Littlejohn, Evans, Curred

Curran.
Colohosters Emberson; Fry. Belts.
McCarthy. Caesar, Cawley, Kinedila.
Dennis McGleish, Reinet, Gibbs.

figure in the directors' box.

including their scorers Little and Rivers, though the latter was on the bench. Initially the disruption did not show. In a clean, fast opening Coun-ty's only efforts of note came via a dangerous cross from Finnan, the man who had where they will meet Brad-ford City on Sunday week, and doomed Crewe Alexandra range shot from Martindale.

to their third failure in three in the play-offs.

Crewe's starting line-up lacked four of those from Sunday's 2-2 draw at Gresty Road lively partnership with Batters and Adebota But whatever and But wh tersby from the off here. When the first save had to be made, in the 27th minute, it came from one of this duo. Battersby cut in from the right wing to shoot fiercely with his left foot. Crewe's

was soon back in business arching backwards to claw away a flicked header from Martindale. But at the other end Gayle keeper Gayle did well to push that wide and he made another important stop shortly before the break, diving on to tum, Martindale hit a post

was said at half-time seemed

to work as the visitors forced

Ward into his first serious

As the game gained momen

But the impetus was with County and in the 62nd min-ute Martindale thumped a volley past Gayle after Fin-nan had intelligently knocked

down Agana's centre. Metts County: Ward: Derry. Murphy Strodder, Baraclough, Richardson. Finnan, Rogers, Agens, Martindale. Betternty.

Betterstry.
Orewe Alexandra: Gayle: Westwood.
Unsworls, McAlfieler, Lightfoot, Savage.
Ridings (Barr, Timle), Collins (Phres., 75).
Bitsoett (Tlerney, 80), Macauloy, Adebola.
Saferese K M Lynch (Krarasborough)

reporter as be left. Bisham Abbey set-up," an FA spokesman said later. "It was a look-and-learn exercise, a chance to see how everything works. Terry was fully aware that he was coming and fully supportive, and he invited him back to the team hotel for

In showing a discretion plus about 100,000 Chinese.

Glenn came to look at the

### 'Non' to the French

AN RUSH has decided to end his playing career in west Yorkshire rather than France. Barring an improbable 11th-hour change of heart, the Liverpool striker will announce on Monday that he is to join Leeds United

A statement to that effect had been expected yesterday but Rush asked for more time to consider an enticing offer made on Tuesday by

Although the 34-year-old Welshman has ignored over-European clubs since return ing to Liverpool after a brief spell in Italy with Juventus eight years ago, he courte-ously agreed to listen to Marseille's proposals.

But even the chance to earn

a small fortune in pleasant surroundings is unlikely to overturn his preference for a move across the Pennines. He is likely to sign a two-year deal and will begin the transformation from player to coach during his time at Elland Road

Leeds's Howard Wilkinson was one of several managers to contact Rush two months ago when the striker an-nounced that his 16-year love affair with the Merseyside club was definitely to end this

After a season which brought humiliation at the hands of Aston Villa in the Coca-Cola Cup final and a worrying brush with relega-tion from the Premiership, Wilkinson's own future is anything but certain.

However, his response to the crisis has been typically robust and he will regard the signing of a player of Rush's pedigree and ability

Wilkinson's clear-out of players he deems surplus to requirements began in earnest yesterday when the Northern Ireland international defender Nigel Worthington was given a free

Rush's decision to join Leeds will disappoint a host of clubs, notably Sheffield United, who have offered him tant to their manager Howard Rendall, a long-time friend of the Welsh striker.

As Rush shapes to leave Liverpool, Neil Ruddock yesterday announced that he in-tended to remain at Anfield. Unhappy at being omitted from Liverpool's Cup final team last Saturday, the Eng-land defender was known to be considering his long-term future. But he emerged, smiling and seemingly reassured, from talks with his manager Roy Evans at lunchtime

yesterday.
"We have had a very serious conversation," said Evans. "I want him to stay, and he wants to stay. He is looking forward to being successful at this chib in the years ahead."

Evans will today make a final attempt to convince his former England midfielder Michael Thomas that he should accept a new, threeyear contract in preference to joining Bayern Munich on a free transfer this summer.

The Wolves manager Mark McGhee will discipline players accused of rowdy behav-

g-strap

eggini

eson f

galia ir

tour on an end-of-season holi-day in Cyprus. "This [behaviour] sums up the attitude of most of the squad and I am not surprised by it," said McGhee. Ten players went on the trip, which was marred by complaints from fellow hotel guests of late-night

### Hoddle given private view of England

**David Lacey** says it was no accident that

Venables' heir was at Bisham vesterdav

WHILE the media's back was forcibly turned, Glenn Hoddle yesterday had a sneak preview of the England squad that will soon be his. Hoddle, who will take over from Terry Venables as England coach after the European Champi-onship, looked in on a closed for County, while Adebola went close for Crewe. training session at Bisham

> His unscheduled appearance followed growing criti-Association had apparently gone out of its way to ensure that he was kept at arm's length from the England players during Euro 96. Yesterday he did no more than watch an hour and three-quarters' practice from afar. It was no accident that he

turned up at Bisham on the day Venables and his squad had to themselves during the preparations for Saturday's friendly against Hungary at Wembley. In fact he was the first to arrive, driving in 10 minutes before the team bus, He watched the training session sitting on a fence-post, arms folded and eyes shielded by sunglasses. After it was over he talked briefly with Les Ferdinand and Sol Campbell and shook hands with Teddy Sheringham, but

lunch with the squad."

worthy of Camilla Parker-Bowles, Hoddle was all too aware of the media treatment even a harmless aside might receive. If the FA has its way the chances of its England coaches, present and future, being caught together by the cameras during the European

asked why the FA, having appointed Hoddle before the European Championship, should refuse to countenance the idea of baving him around, even in a passive role, during England's games. Perhaps this involvement could only happen if England were to play their Euro 96 matches in an empty stadium behind closed doors. That is unlikely — although the FA's ticket distribution system appears to be doing its

In the meantime, the England squad for next week's tour to China and Hong Kong is due to be announced by Venables today.

Paul Gascoigne will be back after the Scottish FA Cup final and those left out, Gary Pallister and Steve Howey for example, will realise that their chances of making the 22 for the European Champi-onship have virtually

disappeared. Whether Tony Adams is included will depend on Vensbles's assessment of him in training this week. The recent testimonial for Paul Merson represents the Arsenal captain's only match since a knee operation in mid-

Six thousand police will be deployed in the Workers' Sta-

dium and surrounding streets when England play in Beijing a week today. Several hun-dred England fans are expected to watch the match -

#### Sport in brief

Golf

Yorkshire's Ryder Cup player Mark James will replace the arthritic Jose-Maria Olazabal at The Oxfordshire next Monday in the European qualifier for the £2.4 million Andersen Consulting World Championship. The current European No.1 Ian Woosnam declined the place "because I don't want to be away from home around the New Year". The four-man finals will be held in Arizona on January 4-5.

Tennis

Martina Hingls, who beat the world No. 1 Steffi Graf last week on her way to the Italian Open final, came back down to earth with a bump yesterday. The Swiss 15-yearold lost in the second round of the German Open, beaten 6-3, New Zealand.

7-5 by Słovakia's world No. 54 Karina Habsudova.

Hockey

Lauren Williams, a Wales Under-21 defender and eldest daughter of the rugby union legend JPR Williams, wins full international selection for Wales against Italy in Rome on May 30 and June 2, writes Pat Rowley. Another of JPR's daughters, Annie, is a Wales Under-18 player.

Sailing

A big shake-up during the final round-robin stage saw France's former world matchracing champion Bertrand Pace eliminated from the Brut Royal Lymington Cup. writes Bob Fisher. Britain's Chris Law is among the eight who enter today's quarterfinal knock-out. His rivals include Peter Gilmour of Australia and Russell Courts of

#### Third Division

Plymouth Argyle 3, Colchester 1 (agg: 3-2)

#### Williams blows late bubble as Argyle savour home fizz

ARGYLE's manager, Neil Warnock, was ordered out of the dugout by the referee during the second half of this fiery second leg. He was in-censed that, a minute earlier. Tony McCarthy had not been sent off for bringing down Adrian Littlejohn as he chased unchallenged for goal. Often outplayed, Colchester

pulled back a goal with a su-perb strike by Mark Kinsella after 66 minutes. Yet for the Devon crowd the perfect fithe defender Paul Williams five minutes from time. If the game plan was to get the first-leg deficit out of the way by the quickest route, it worked in a way which had

Warnock jumping off the bench after three minutes. The goal was sweetly taken by Mickey Evans, the only Plymouth-born player in the the kick just outside the area; instead Leadbitter flighted in the most precise of left footers. Emberson barely moved, deceived by the last-second

Over 3 million flag waving supporters £29.50 **2 0800 000 111** 

#### Souness fights back in Turkey GRAEME SOUNESS has bitten back at Galata-

saray after being sacked by the Turkish Cup winners last week. He has appealed to the world governing body Fifa,

saying he was fired improp-erly and claiming that in March his contract was automatically extended for another year. another year.

However, according to a Turkish newspaper the former Liverpool manager said he would give up his appeal if he was paid £440,000 by Galatasaray, the equivalent of next sea-

son's salary. Peter Shreeves is another jobless coach, having lost out in a staff reshuffle under Chelsen's new player-manager Rund Gullit. Graham Rix, 88, has been promoted to first-team

coach, with Shreeves being shown the door.

Birmingham City's new manager Trevor Francis has gone back to his last club Sheffield Wednesday to recruit three aides for his back-room team. The Yorkshire club have given him permission to ap-proach their chief scout Mick Mills, reserve coach Frank Barlow and fitness trainer Arvel Lowe.

Fresh from following on Manchester United's heels in the title race, Newcastle United are emulating their penchant for producing peculiar away kits. Next season the runners-up will wear a denim-blue shirt with a black band across the chest to approximate the one worn for the 1969 Fairs Cup victory — 1990s price of £38.99.

Results ENDSLEIGH LEAGUE

PLAY-OFFS First Division Crystal Poisson (1) 1 Houghton 4 (agg: 3-1) Stolice (0) 0 21,037 (agg: 0-1) Second Division

Soccer

Third Divis

Prymouth Event 3, L Williams 8 contin (2) \$ **UEFA CUP** Final, second leg Dutuel 75 (app: 1-6)

Tennis Tennis

ATP ITALIAN OPEN (Rame): Seasond

ATP ITALIAN OPEN (Rame): Seasond

(Sp) 4-6, 6-3, 6-4; M Rosset (Britz) it B

Karbacher (Gar) 6-1, 3-0 ret, M Hose

(Calle) bt D Variet, (C2) 6-3, 9-3; C Hope

(Sp) bt MV Washington (US) 7-6, 7-6; H

Gentry (Ang) bt J Corter (US) 6-4, 6-4; T

Hender (Ang) bt P Korda (C2) 6-2, 6-3; Y

Rafelnikov (Rus) bt C Costa (Sp) 6-1, 6-2; W

Philippeanusis (Aus) bt A Vointe (Rom)

(-6, 6-1; R Krajicek (Neth) bt F Clavet

(Sp) 6-4, 6-4; A Costa (Sp) bt Schalken

(Neth) 6-1, 6-4; W Ferreins (SA) bt R Ren
chang (US) 6-3, 6-7, 6-4; A Beckender

(Ur) bt E Alverez (Sp) 6-4, 3-6, 6-1; S

Ediberg (Swe) bt C Proline (F) 6-5, 7-6; G

Feentley (Cr) bt B Lillbrach (C2) 1-6.

6-4, 6-1.

manarg (6we) bt C Pioline (Fr) 8-3, 7-8; 9. Prenationally (Cro) bt B Lillhrach (Cz) 1-6. 6-4, 6-1, IEZN'S MASTERS (Cardid): Gaunter-density T Schlessing (Aut) bt R Nicklah (Ger) 6-4, 6-4; 0 Berriess (Sp) bt A Dupuis (Fr) 7-8, 6-4; F Donde (Ura) bt A Richardson (GB) 8-2, 5-2; W Trees (Aut) bt J Delgado (GB) 7-8, 6-4. WOBERN'S CHRISIAN OPEN (Berlin): Second research A Nuther (Cer) bt 1. Lee (US) 3-6, 7-6, 6-3; A Smaches Witcomic (Sp) bt M Werdel-Witmeyer (US) 6-3, 8-3; S Hack (Ger) bt 5 Knoosel (Ger) 8-1, 6-3; E Paulan (Aut) bt K Novak (Pol) 6-2, 6-2; Lildhovinove (Rus) bt N Bradito (Aus) 6-0, 6-4. Third reseats 3 Grad (Ger) bt Y Smachnova (for) 8-4, 6-3; R Dragonsk Standards (Fr) bt X Smachnova (for) 8-4, 6-3; R Dragonsk

(Hom) bt N Zvereva (Belarum) 5-7. 6-2. 7-6: K Habendove (Slo) bt M Hingle (Bellz) 6-3. 7-5; J Kardiary (Ger) bt A Contra (BA) 7-6. 2-6. 3-1. Rishtenove (Ca) bt S Testad (Fr) 7-6. 6-2. 8-7 Rishtenove (Ca) bt S Testad (Fr) 7-6. 6-2. 8-7 Rishtenove (Fr) bt B Reigner (Ger) 6-2. 8-3. WOMEN'S BYTERNATIONAL (Cardin)-First revent: H Reggees (Slo) bt S Appelmans (Ba) 6-4. 7-6. M Mescadia (Ven) bt M-J Gaidson (Arg) 6-1, 6-3; K Rashtred (Aus) bt A Sevre-Zanetti (N) 6-0, 6-2. A Fuels (Fr) bt J Luirova (Rus) 6-7, 6-0, 6-2; D Van Resect (Bel) bt B Rejerova (Rus) 6-1, 6-3; S Jeganteelan (Carl) bt M Paz (Arg) 7-6, 7-5; E Castleses (Bel) bt B Rejerstadler (Aut) 7-6, 6-2; S Philosovald (Fr) bt K Kremar (Lux) 6-2, 6-4; M de Sausrett (SA) bt C Wood (Gil) 8-2, 6-2.

Baseball · AMESISCAM LEAGURE Boston 4, California 3 (in 12); Cleveland 5, Detroit 1; NY 2, Saattle 0; Torosto 4, Minnesota 2; Towas 10, Korsess C & Baltimore 9, Caldand 1, MATTONIAL LEAGURE Houson 5, Chago 3; Florida 11, St Losts 5; Colorado 5, Cipirrati 3; Philadelphia 7, San Francisco 0; Alfante 7, Pilitsburgh 3; Los Angeles 2, Montreal 1; Stn Diego 9, New York 4.

Basketball

CTICKET
SECOND XI CHAMBRIO(MSAIR): Checking-ferel: Glouce 214 and 313-5 (D. Cowley)
105no). Excest 314-7 dox [5 Poters 87].
Drawn. Handlingslene Sustatu 154 [Green 5-55] and 300-4 dec (T A Radiord 155no).
Lanck 138 (Lewry 5-34) and 251-6 [N T Wood 125no). Drawn. Haddedown Kent 379-7 dec and 210-8 dec. Lelconsterablice 251 [Preston 4-99] and 267 (Stanford 5-81) Kent von by 41 russ. Penatyparkda Somesat 417-1 dec (H Morgan 200no. J D Kert 115, P. G. I Holitoway 89no) and 326 (Bleekholey 9-90). Glamorgan 345-7 dec (A D Shaw 170no) and 274-8 [A W Evans 191]. Glamorgan won by two wicksts. Southernoyan 113-6 and 253-4 (A Restleborough 125 Bales 5-80) and 353-7 (R A Kettleborough 182ru). Yorks won by two wicksts. Undridges Midds 296 (De La Pens 4-78) and 405-8 dec (J D Rateslife 110). Drawn. Worenauters Woren 305 and 281 (J T Raiph 100. Roberts 4-74). Northavis 316-8 dec and 113-8 (Presco 3-34). Drawn.

Evening Racing

PERTH

S.25.1. (BOEN DANCER, P Niven (8-1)

Isy): 2. Strepherds Reet (11-4): 3. Stylhit inferred (20-1): 7 ran. (Mrs M Reveley)

T. C.150: C.1-10. (1.50. DF: C.1-0). CSF: C.2-7.

NRC: Crystal Git. 8.58: 1. TEMPLE

QARTH, R Supple (8-2): 2. White Dismond (9-1); 3. Restor May (7-2). 3-15

Hore Joy, 12 ran. (P Beaumon) T. S.5.50,

C.200. (2.00. C.1.20. DF: C28.00. Troc. C14.00

GSF: C39.10. NR: East Mousion. 7.-28: 1,

PALIS HOUSE, L. Wyer (8-1): 2. Cherry

Polony (8-1): 3. Thursis (3-10. 10 ran. [J]

HOGC: University of Northeris.

| Hellens) T: E7:30; E2:00, E1:40, E2:00, DF: 122:60, Trics: E47:20, CSF: 162:82, Trics: E21:63, E7:40, E7:40, E2:60, Trics: E21:63, E7:40, E7 HUNTINGDON Brennan) T: 55.00: 22.50, 22.10, 22.60, UF: 20.48, Tric C144-20. SF: C20.98, Tric C145.88, NR: Abdul Emir, Allanton Lad. 4.40: 1, BRASE A STARRD, D Bridgestart (5-40; 2, Ben Veyrage (4-1), 3, Sen God (11-1), 13 ran. (M Pipe) T: 22.50; C.70, E2.50, OF: C30.40, Tric: 190.40, CSF: 22.50, OF: 14. LAKE OF LOUGHBA, R Durmoody (5-1); 2, Lovennethe (7-4); 3, Robert's Toy (8-11), 0 ran. (K Balley) T: C3.90; C149, E1.70, C1.50, OF: 28.40, Tric: C3.90, CSF: E22.52, 7.40: 1, BESTER OFERS.

NBA: Play-off nemi-finate: Eastern Conft Chicago 94, Now York 51 (Chicago win series 4-1), Western: San Antonio 98, Umb 87 (Utah win series 3-2).

23.90. CSF: E23.53. 77.40: 1, MESTER DEFUN, P Crowley [13.2]; 2, Poby Assertant (-1); 3, E83.0 (13.2); 2, Poby Assertant (-1); 3, E83.0 (13.2); 0 ran. (Millioners) T. E3.40; E2.30; C1.70; E2.40. DF: C35.60. Tric: 082.00. CSF: C13.61. Tr. L182.50. 8.10: 1, SEA BREAKER, G Bradley [-4]; 2, Medicine Field (13.2); 3, Spring Saustine (20.-1); 11 ran. (D Cardillori T: E2 05: E1.60. E1.70; D4.00 DF: E2.20. Tric: D95.00. CSF: C15.96. Tr: E209.81. 8.40: 1, QLEMBARKER CHEL, D Ericquel (-1); 2, Red Efficie (7-2); 3, Place Second (6-1), 4 ran. (M Phps) T: E1.60. DF: E1.50. CSF: E2.13. PLACEMPOT: E1.60. CSF: E2.13. PLACEMPOT: E1.60. CSF: E2.14. **Fixtures** 

Soccer

ARLL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE Play second logs Dundos Uni v Partick. Rugby League ALLIAMOR: Bradloyd v Hull; Halifax v Leeds, Oldham v Sattord; St Helens v Wer-rington; Wigan v Hull KR. First: Dewsbury v Widnes; Sheffield v Wakefield; York: v Cricket

### RICH AND POOR IN RUGBY'S NEW WORLD

### £3 million gives Quins a gilt edge

Robert Armstrong

ARLEQUINS are set to become the wealthiest rugby weatthlest rugby club in Britain as a result of a £3 million investment by a London-based sports and leisure development. Piverside ple ment company. Riverside plc, which has sports outlets in Chiswick. Croydon and Northwood, will take up a 40 per cent equity interest in Harlequins FC in return for its investment, announced yesterday, which will underpin the players' wage bill and the building of a stand at The Stoop.

The agreement between Riverside and Harlequins, who have agreed to set up a trust to take control of the majority 60 per cent holding, has been approved by a gen-eral meeting of club memeral meeting of club members. Together with the £1.5 million investment over three years by NEC, the Japanese electronics company, announced in January, the Riverside deal will provide Quins with a strong capital base on which to build their professional future. sional future.

Mark Johnson, Riverside's chief executive, said yester-day: "Harlequins know they man of marketing.

have a serious financial partner and together we are en-titled to feel very excited about the future."

Last year Riverside, which has 15,000 members in its tennis and health and fitness clubs, had a turnover of £11 profit of £2.5 million. The company, which was founded 10 years ago, aims to increase its turnover substantially by the end of the decade by developing new sites for its opvetoping new sites for its op-erations and boosting its fam-ily membership. One of those sites may be The Stoop, pro-vided the Harlequin Trust agrees in principle and Rich-mond Borough Council is willing to give planning permission

'We have no current plans for The Stoop, which will remain primarily a rugby ground, but we are likely to explore possibilities for development there at a future date," said Johnson, who negotisted the agreement with gotiated the agreement with the Harlequins chairman Roger Looker and the senior club officers Donald Rerr and Colin Herridge. Kerr enjoys wider responsibilities as chairman of English First Division Rugby Limited, and Herridge is the RFU chair-

Harlequins have budgeted for a £1.5 million wage bill covering a squad of 35 players for next season. The salaries of their full-time ancillary staff, including the director of rugby Dick Best, are thought likely to add £150,000 to the club's outgoings. Apart from the NEC and Riverside investments, the club are banking on additional income from television contracts, corpo-rate hospitality and the sale of long-term debentures.

Work has begun on a new 4,500-seat stand which is ex-pected to be completed by November at a cost of £4.5 million. The majority of the debentures on offer will be in the new stand situated on the will include state-of-the-art out to companies. An Australian player failed

a routine drugs test at the Melrose Sevens on April 13. The unnamed player, from the Manly club, tested posi-tive for pseudoephedrine, a stimulant commonly found in cold cures. He is the first rugby player to fail a drugs test in Scotland. The Scottish Rugby Union has passed the information on to the Austra-lian RFU, which has warned



#### Cash-strapped Wigan put out begging bowl to stop Robinson from leaving for Australia in £1.25m deal

Paul Fitzpatrick

WIGAN are to ask for fi-nancial help from the European Super League in an attempt to keep Jason Robinson at Central Park. Wigan's 22-year-old winger is established as an outstanding talent but his reputation has soured in the past week thanks to Wigan's successful crosscode involvement with Bath and the Middlesex

The problem is that the English game is due to lose Robinson to the Australian Rugby League, with which he has signed a four-year contract, from next summer. Wigan dearly want to keep him but cannot match the ARL's deal, believed to

Jack Robinson, the club's | Though Wigan's financial | E. Seryth (both Wigan), Talket (W.

'I do not think Super eague can afford to lose players like Jason but at this stage we cannot match what he has been offered

and it is not looking too optimistic.
"But I'm hoping that maybe at the death a deal can be done to keep him in the European Super League. We would, though, need help to do that, Personally I think he will go and it would

be a tragedy to lose him."
Wigan's coach Graeme
West, already disappointed at losing Scott Quinnell to Richmond rugby union club, echeed the sentiment. "I said when the club was chasing Jonah Lomu that I would rather give Jason the money and keep him. I have not changed my

ian Open and French Open twice, the last of his four Grand Slam victories being

the Australian Open in 1993.

world ladder to fist, a few places above Britain's Greg Rusedski, a couple of rungs

below Tim Henman. He was not expecting to win.

With only one Italian left in
the draw after the first round
the crowds have been lively

rather than volcanic. Occa-

sionally this serene park,

On the same court Goran

problems could mean the loss of more of their best players, it is not all gloom at Central Park, and the an-nouncement of Britain's Academy squad (nnder-19s) to play France at Carcassonne on June 5 confirms the club's playing strength.

Among them is Rob Smyth, who scored two tries against Halifax on Tuesday and looks an ex-ceptional winger in the making; good enough to fill the vacancy left by Robin-son's departure.

Greg McCallum, the controller of referees, is to study a video of Tuesday's match when the Halifax forward Michael Jackson was sent off for tripping by Stuart Cummings. It seems inevitable he will conclude the same as most observer at the game: the man who should have been dismissed was Asa Amone, Helifax's

48 ACADEMY SQUAD: Anders Arnold (both SI Helens), Engens (Wigness (Lecto), Cardina, Clarks (Wigan), Canamina, Field, Pecard Leeds), (Skrove, Jehance (both Wig Knott (Warrington), Lawford (Shelf Eggles), Leethers (St. Helens), MCA

### Brown stakes his claim

**David Foot** on the Surrey batsman who can supply both qualms

Three years ago, in a Sunday league match at Lianelli, and charm and is campling on England recognition this weekend

be stroked and swung the bat and charm and is gambling on England recognition this weekend

fast reading. Once he part | must have sounded as if I had owned a greyhound at my own mechanic as well as Wimbledon. "It was called probably a butler." Frank's Hat. Came over from Ireland and won a race or

two. Good fun."

The bookmakers, you imagine, have taken a few bob off him. "So did Wardy (his team: mate David Ward] when it came to snooker." Brown likes the ambiance of the track, the feeling that he may have found a winner, the instant judgment. He himself is currently chalked high on the bounce was true. I didn't have bookies, howed for a place and coaching, people telling me what I had bookies' board for a place when the England one-day side is named on Sunday.

paurician nickname "Lordy", he has a proper repertoire. "My father was an opener and escape, is a misnomer. He is self-assured, not cocky."

"Forget all the "Tordy", he has a proper repertoire. "My father was an opener and very positive. I learned plenty from him."

"Forget all the nonsens about my supposed aristo-cratic bearing," he jokes. "When I was first on the staff we had to go to Canterbury for a Second XI match and my

HERE is an appealing | then in a team-mate's car, | loose to open the batting gambler's instinct | I was asked what had | makes a lot of sense. England about Surrey's Alishappened to mine. In all need to mirror what Sritair Brown. The Racinocence I said I had my Lanka schieved in that early tis apt to be his break mechanic looking at it. It period of a match."

> Those who regularly watch inose who regularly watch him at the crease suspect the gambler's approach is never far away. Instantly he gobbles up wayward balls, takes on the bowlers. He is not inhibited by the "itsel" of activations of the control of the cont

"As a youngster I played on concrete wickets. They were hard and bouncy — but the bounce was true. I didn't have a great deal of coaching, people telling me what I had to do. What I did have was a side is named on Sunday.

The recent speculation feet. I've always liked to drive about England's high order and pull — and cut." he adds,

At the age of 26, Ally Brown makes no effort to conceal his boyish hopes for England selection. His new coach and eloquent advocate David Gilbert is unequivocal. "As far clapped-out Golf broke down. as I am concerned he has to odd qualm around the bound-When I got to the ground, by get the nod. Letting Alistair ary goes with the charm.

Yet Brown was dropped twice by his county last summer. It looked as though he was being made a scapegoat. Now he says of the more disheartening moments of 1995: "Things got very depressing and morale was low. Darren Bicknell was the first to be dropped, David Ward just

didn't have a look-in." The implication was that some in authority at The Oval thought he needed to change his attitude to batsmanship. that he was becoming a toowilling victim of his rattlealong reputation and lacked discrimination when it came to his propensity for muscu-lar shots. "Try to change him and you'll ruin him," says

Gilbert.

Brown is one of county cricket's most exhilarating batsmen, with the style and temperament to take on the Indian bowlers almost as dle without needing to return to working in insurance, and their run-up. His audacious stroke-play is warmly regarded by fellow players. The trusty bat in hand and, at trusty bat in hand and, at the structure of the str

to great effect for his 113 against Glamorgan. At the end Viv Richards walked into the dressing room and offered the ultimate Caribbean accolade — "Respect!" — then

Botham said after Surrey's too young to be thinking match with Durham. He observed that the young bats Confidence is a problem man was just a slogger. "Only trying to bat like my idol," was the rejoinder. It was the perfect, if not intended, putdown, though Botham surely appreciated it. Brown says of the transfor-

mation at Surrey: "David Gil-bert has had an individual meeting with all of us. He's easy to get on with, deals with discipline in a quiet way. We can say what we like and he's ready to listen. Surrey has a completely different atmo-

sphere this season."

Not so long ago Brown was filled with self doubts, confiding to his girlfriend. "I once told myself that if I hadn't made it by the time I was 21 I'd pack it in altogether."

He got past that mental hurleast figuratively, binoculars around his neck.

Byas but many will need con-

vincing that this season they

can make genuine progress towards re-establishing them-

Charter-final draws Surrey v Yorkshire; Glamorgan v Warwckshire; Northampton-shire v Kent, Lancashire v Glouces-tershire. // Matches to be played Tuesday May 25).

selves as a major force.

### Sherry has big hopes

David Davies on the leading lights in this week's **B&H** International

OLIN MONTGOMERIE wants to win two tournaments out of his next four, Gordon Sherry wants nothing less than to become the world's No. 1 golfer, and suffering Severiano Ballesteros would settle for just a glimpse of what used to be. All three are at The Oxfordshire, near Thame, today for the Benson and Hedges International, the £700,000 tournament with a £116,660 first prize. Every member of the last Ryder Cup team is present, includ-ing Philip Walton, who last week missed the cut in the Byron Nelson tournament

Montgomerie is not yet tired of being the European No. 1, the position he has occupied for the past three years and in which he must remain if he is not to go backwards on the Volvo Order of Merit for the first time in his career.

But so far he has played only five rounds on the European tour, the four that led to him winning the Dubai Classic, and one last week in Madrid. After that he had to withdraw because his baby daughter was ill in bospital, a situation now happliy remedied.
"I need at least one win

in the next month," he said, "to boost my Order of Merit position and to give me con-This latter is the championship that Montgomerie believes gives him his best chance of a major title, and he is aiming to improve his putting before he goes

"I suppose if you holed them all," he said, "this wouldn't be the interesting game that it is." But reality quickly intruded on this at-tempt at philosophy. "The problem is that when you miss a few you lose confidence, you start to be concerned about holing the one back before you've hit the first one, and you get tentative."

Montgomerie might have been analysing, precisely, Tom Watson's troubles, And we all know what Ian and at 32 the Scot is rather

for Ballesteros too. But what would work wonders would be a finish much higher than 49th, the best he has achieved in four European events, having missed the cut in two of

Sherry makes his debut on the European tour this week and he immediately, if unwittingly, revealed the extent of his ambition. Asked about his performance in the US Masters, where he missed the cut, he said: "I'm looking forward to going back there, next year or the year after." To do that, of course, he will have to have won a champi-onship or be in the top two of the Order of Merit at the right time, a tall order even for 6ft Bin of talented

Sherry plays with Sandy Lyle, a kinder draw than that given to Padraig Harrington, last week's winner of the Spanish Open. The irishman plays with some-one he last saw in the flesh two years ago when he attended the great man's Masterclass, one Nick Faldo.

Apropos of Faldo's presence on a golf course, Montgomerie said yesterday:
"He can be intimidating when you're playing on the same side as him, never mind against him." For Harrington it will be an illuminating, if not entertaining, experience.

#### Tennis

### Courier bitten by sharp Gumy

Stephen Bierley in Rome

BY FAR the most visually impressive court at the Foro Italico is not the campo centrale, where Sunday's 53rd Italian Open men's final will be played, but the older grandstand. Eighteen that we closerical status are vast neo-classical statues are ranged around its perimeter, and huge slabs of marble comprise the bench seating.
It is grand, but also ridicu-

lous, given the greater gran-deur of this city. For this is 1930s Mussolini kitsch. Not perhaps a place for heroes, but fallen heroes.

So it was, on a glorious Roman spring afternoon yes-terday, that Jim Courier, No.1 in the world for 17 weeks three years ago, stumbled to abject defeat against the somewhat unfortunately named Hernan Gumy, who showed more than one or two

"He's pretty good but when "m playing well I eat these guys for lunch," said Courier, the No. 5 seed here. "I made a lot of mistakes, and you can't afford to on this surface." Clay has been good to Courier. He has won both the Ital-

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Boxing

#### **Tyson-Lewis** deal close to completion, says Maloney

Kevin Mitchell

HERE were encouraging signs last night that the protracted and often acrimo-Gumy, from Buenos Aires, has steadily climbed the nious negotiations for a fight hetween Mike Tyson and Lennox Lewis were about to bear fruit Lawyers and promoters were in the final stages of discussions in New York, according to Lewis's manager Frank Maloney, who cancelled a press conference at the last minute yesterday to accommodate further

with its swaying pine trees and mellifluous birdsong, has been rent with eruptive developments.
King's new willingness to negotiate may well have been prompted by Lewis's unim-pressive points win over Ray Mercer in New York last weekend, but Maloney soundcheers, but generally the ex-citement has been restrained. Courier could have done with something a little extra.
Gumy served well and his ground strokes had a solidity
Courier never matched. The
26-year-old American was ed optimistic. "I've been informed by my lawyers that the talks are positive, on both

asked if he thought he could win a big tournament again. "When I think I can't, then I'll be on the beach." sides." he said. At stake are the World Box-ing Council heavyweight title Ivanisevic, the No. 2 seed, might as well have been at the seaside during the first set against the Czech Bohdan Ulihrach The Croatian played

that Tyson won from Frank
Bruno in March, an estimated
\$60 million (about \$40 million) for the boxers, of which
Tyson would get \$45 million,
and justice for Lewis.

"The WBC has stubbornly
ignored him as the rightful
challenger," said the British
fighter's financial backer
Panos Eliades, "deapite its
own promise and 17 rulings
in 11 different courts over the
past year." abysmally before pulling him-self around to win I-6, 6-4, 6-1. There was not the least whiff of crisis about Thomas past year." Maloney said that the talks

Muster's match against the Czech Petr Korda. The defending champion won 6-2, 6-3 and seems to have spent more time here talking about more time here talking about the merits of clay-court ten nis, and the absence of the top 12 or in the United States in nis, and the absence of the top large of Today be meets that suppos-

Today be meets that supposedly endangered clay species, an American. Todd Martin yesterday defeated Spain's Alberto Berasategui, the 1994
French Open runner-up.
Afterwards Martin said he had attempted to damp down the smouldering disagreement between Muster and the stayat-home Yanks, but this did not prevent the Austrian at home Yanks, but this did The bargaining was sure to not prevent the Austrian be harder than any of Tyson's

returning to his theme later.
"I have nothing against Americans but I think all the top players should take part. Great events like Monte Carlo and Power should not be desired. Great events like monte Cario statled num as the No. 1 contant and Rome should not be detender even though he had and Rome should not be detender even though he had not thrown a punch for nearly fighting for nothing."

Statled num as the No. 1 contheir only medal.

The manager Neil Adams has high hopes of Julian Nicola Fairbrother at light-heavy-fighting for nothing."

Davies at featherweight and weight. But the light-heavy-

Draw gives Glamorgan early chance to erase memories

ANCASHIRE, holders of Cup, face a resurgent matches take place on May 28, immediately after the first of ter-finals of this year's compe-tition. The home tie is a reward for Lancashire's heading their group after a last-over defeat of the favourites Warwickshire on Tuesday. Lancashire secured a tie at

Old Trafford because they won all five of their group matches. But although they must be favourites to reach the semi-finals, they will find

to Northampton, and Surrey this season's one-day international-fests.

Glamorgan will need no reminding that they have reached a solitary Lord's one-day final, and that in 1977. They will also not have forgotten that a chance of another disappeared last season in a NatWest semi-final funk against Warwickshire when in front of their home crowd

Warwickshire will play Glathorgan in Cardiff, last year's ble beast. Kent must be disappointed tough new captain in David that they will not be playing

at Canterbury, but their thumping defeat by Glamor-gan on Tuesday will serve to remind them of their mortality. They are an accomplished one-day side, however, and the tie against Northants promises to be close.
So does the game at The

Oval. Surrey, consistent underachievers, are reaping early dividends from their new coach Dave Gilbert and are playing with consequent confidence. Their side, too, is suited to The Oval pitches. Yorkshire for their part no pushover in a vibrant Gloucestershire side reinforced by the return of the mighty Courtney Walsh.

In the other three matches,

**IO BRAND** GRAHAM KELLY SIMON KUPER **BAVID LACEY** RICK PARRY **ARTHUR SMITH ROGAN TAYLOR** TOM WATT

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#### 

Britain's Olympic prospects face European test

HE four-day European championships get under way here today with Britain featherweight bronze was

Duncan Steen in The Hague

| Graeme Randall at light-mid| dleweight, two British No. 1s | showed a frighteningly clini| who have achieved Olympic | cal stranglehold in the British qualification by winning in-ternational competitions. way here today with Britisin And the former European keen to improve on the world championships seven months ago, when Sharon Rendle's featherweight bronze was ternational tomber to the former European light-middleweight champion Ryan Birch has successfully moved up to middleweight.

The British women's team,

once the envy of Europe, have

Open final, will be satisfied with nothing less than gold after three silvers in world atter unres silvers in world and European competition.
TEAR: Mean Bantamweight. Nigel Danchus. Feetberr Julian Davies. Alghin Danny Kingston. Liveniddies Graums Ray Stovens. Meany an entrant. Womens Bantant. Spore Heron. Feetberr Sharon Rendle. Lights Nicole Fairbrother. Liveliddie Dinne Sell. Middler Rowens Sweatman. Livening Kate Howey. Meanys Michelle Rogers. Opens Josia Horton.

# Sports Guardian

#### DEFEAT AT YORK DEPOSES THE ANTE-POST FAVOURITE FOR THE DERBY



House taken off the market . . . Nash House (second from right) is beaten into fourth place behind Glory Of Dencer (second from left) in the Homeowners Dante Stakes at York yesterday. Nash House had been the ante-post favourite for the Derby but is now unlikely to run in the big race at Epsom on June 8. Lord Weinstock's colt, who had made a strong impression when winning at Newbury last month, finished in some distress and bookmakers removed him from ante-post lists. Glory Of Dancer, Italian owned and trained by Paul

### Police fault Euro 96 security

Ticket black market makes segregation inside grounds impossible says top officer

John Duncan

TOP Euro 96 police officer said yesterday that there was a thriving black market in tickets and that segre-gating opposing supporters would be impossible. Chief Superintendent Colin

Macdonald of West Midlands

though the official allocation to Dutch supporters at the ground was 9,000, he was expecting 20,000 to turn up and many of them would have tickets for unsegregated areas. The first game in Birmingham, Holland v Scotland, has

at Villa Park for the four local English hooligans may games there, said that all take the opportunity to attack either set of supporters. The Dutch have one of Europe's most serious hooligan

"We always anticipated that segregation would be a problem," said Chief Superin-tendent Macdonald. "There already been identified as a could be a Scot sitting next to potential flashpoint, with a Dutch fan with a Swiss fan rumours circulating that next to him and an English-

man in between. I can't stop i mined by a black market is tickets, which is why Euro 96 will not release tickets until shortly before the tournament "These tickets have gone all over Europe and, while we know who will have the offiand no individual can buy cial allocations, we have no more than four for one game. Each ticket will have the name of the purchaser on it.

control over the rest of them.
We can't control it, for instance, if a Scot living in England has bought tickets from an English address." The Football Association's ticketing policy has been de-signed to enforce segregation as the most effective way of

and police can prosecute if they discover that a ticket has been sold on by its purchaser. But names will not be lessening the risk of hooligan confrontations. That strategy would be seriously under-

checked against tickets as fans enter the ground. "We know that there is a black market in tickets," said Detective Chief Inspector Ian Dunkin, head of the West unit, "though there is nothing here in Birmingham as far as we are aware. "But tickets for Villa Park have been sold all over the country and we cannot know

who has got all of them. You

as a private individual could have bought several tickets and might decide to sell them nearer the tournament when you get them and we might never get to hear about it." However, the FA remains

adamant that its segregation plans are intact, "We're confident that the policy will work and segregation will be achieved," said a Euro 96 spokesman. "As far as we are concerned there is no wide spread black market."

### United move for Shearer

ANCHESTER United are planning a deter-V mined attempt to lure Alan Shearer away from Blackburn Rovers. The Double winners are believed to be willing to offer a British record transfer fee of £12 million for the

Although Blackburn's manager Ray Harford has always insisted Shearer is not for sale at any price, he may now be willing to let him leave Ewood Park.

Preliminary negotiations thought already to have taken place. If Shearer does join United, it will signal the end of Andy Cole's career at Old Trafford.

United's manager Alex Ferguson moved last night to quash speculation that he was about to leave United because of problems over a new contract. He said: "Hopefully I'll have it resolved before I go on holiday."

# Thrill of high flying close to the edge



Angela Patmore

at the moment. Every-where overworked cally doing their relaxation exercises, visualising calm limbs becoming heavy. Highly paid (though not necessarily highly qualified) "stress management consultants" warn that if we don't reduce our tension we will wind up dead or cared for in the community. The stressologists say that all our problems from whatever cause are really "stress-related". If we hang loose, troubles will clear up, rather like acne.

Stress affects athletic per formance but then sport is de-signed, like a laboratory experiment, to subject performers to what they call "pressure". As a society we need to know what will hap-pen to them, and sport can be merciless in exposing their fright. But, stress is not all negative. Many competitors go in search of such stimula-tion. Stress may be unpleasant but it is also their spur to

Judy Leden, for example, can't look over the edge of a cliff. Indeed this 5ft 4in, nine-stone Derbyshire lass can't even bear to see anybody else doing it. But with a hang glider strapped to her back she can run off the cliff and soar with the gulls. At 36 the world paragliding champion and former world hang-gliding champion holds a lot of records, including the world altitude mark when she ped out of a balloon : 41,300ft over Jordan.

Leden has flown over a smoking volcano and floated across the Channel — a nasty assignment for a glider pilot because landing in water means almost certain death because the weight of the equipment drags them under. And she has done all this from the most unpromising and unconfident of beginnings, with no other female role model and a lot of men taking the mickey. Yes, she gets scared. Before the altitude drop she woke up in a muck sweat, hav ing dreamt that her oxygen system had frozen up.

The danger serves to con-centrate her mind. "When

your adrenalin is really flow-

maximum, there's an incredible feeling that I suppose is focus. There is a kind of calmness about it, yet there's an extreme exhibaration knowing that you're firing on all cylinders and that you couldn't possibly ever make better decisions than you're making right now, because you're thinking so clearly. It's as though the blinkers have When Leden touched down

working at their absolute

after the altitude drop, in pain from frostbite and exhaustion, somebody told her: "Women only ever look that bad in childbirth." No matter:

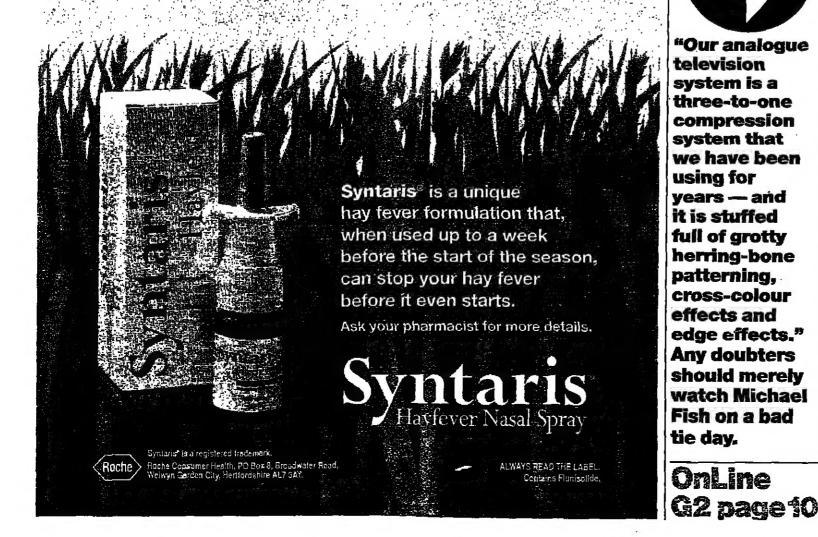
all the stress had paid off. "The view going up to 40,000ft was absolutely exquisite. I know it sounds strange but I really enjoyed the trip up. I knew I would never see that view again, and it was a very privileged vantage point. Spangles of ice were drifting past me, leaving this glorious vapour trail. I could see the whole of Egypt, the whole of Jordan, the whole of Israel and way into Saudi Arabia, and the wonderful patterns of the desert. It's not the same as looking out of an aeroplane porthole. You have 360-degree vision and you can see the dark sky above you and the curvature of the earth."

THE has flown over the Andes with condors (her autobiography Tying with Condors is published by Orion in July). To be accepted as a bird by a bird in its own environment is stumning, the aerial equivalent of swimming with dol-phins." She has been within a whisker of death ("I made a mistake while paragliding and my wing kept collapsing") and she has seen fellow gliders die six of them in one "cu-nim" (thundercloud) in Italy, tossed about like corks.

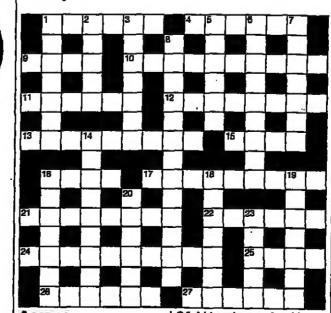
But she won't give up her passions despite having just become a mother. "There are more fanatics in flying than in any other sport, and in freeflying particularly. You're looking for those peak experi ences. It's like a drug."

The term peak experiences. coined by the psychologist Abraham Maslow, has be-come unfashionable in the stress-fearing Nineties. Of her peak experiences Leden says: "They remain indelibly etched on your mind. You just want to repeat them, and be there again. They're like a photograph, they're so clear." Sometimes vertigo gets her on the edge of the cliff and she has to abort the flight. But once she's in the air, all the tensions vanish. A way she goes, "flying with condors", literally on a high.

## STOP HAYEEVER IISIARS



#### **Guardian Crossword No 20.654** Set by Rufus



Across

sued maker (6) 9 A minor drawback (4)

11 Thus mail goes astray for East African (6) 12 Shown to have a deficit and

17 Sponges surgeons initially call out for (9)

22 What one does with a

1 An eight-foot long snocker

4 Produced returned bill and

Offer sprawling lion some meat (10)

charged (8) 13 American Lesley's going out with, to no avail (9)

15 Looks composed? (4) 16 Welshman gets backing in the church (4)

21 Whisk car off in transporter

24 A blooming comfortable place to be (3,2,5) 25 A minute mark (4)

26 Relaxation, for example, about a moral slip (6) 27 Why brides may conceal having mixed parentage (6)

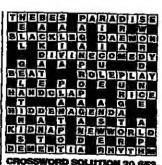
Down 1 Kept animals outside dogs? (7)

2 Land part in "Diamond U" (5) 3 Involves a silent order (7)

5 Mature and moving programme (6) . 6 Choice could be natural (9) 7 Motoring clubs? (7)

8 Back in time (13) 14 Ties of affection (4-5) 16 New native quarter shows

simplicity (7) 18 An epic tour of the Greek



9 One would feel put out to be so treated (7)

20 Greek ferry operator (6) 23 A man fore-armed has such a nerve (5)

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